HOSTESS DIARY

JAN 1945- DEC. 1945

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WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, December 31, 1944 Cold

"Poland", written across the sleeve of a British Air Force uniform identified our "Diary Subject" today as an exile from Poland, outfitted by the British government. His name is A. Jaworski and his title is Wing Commander, corresponding to Colonel in the U. S. Air Corps. His eyes sparkled as he talked and listened; listening he liked better than talking, although his English grammar and pronunciation were remarkably good. "Just picked it up while living in England", he said, and then explained that his mission to America is to study at Harvard, a special course only available in this country. When asked how he liked the Inn, Mr. Jaworski said that it, more than any place he had seen here, made him think of home and old landmarks in Poland.

Monday, January 1,1945 Stormy

New Year's Day

A lovely bride ushered in our New Year. She was Betty Little, one-time pupil in the Redstone and Southwest Schools. Betty moved away from Sudbury several years ago, but came back to be married here this afternoon in the Martha-Mary Chapel. Her groom was Navy Lieutenant Russell Wood. About fifty friends and relatives drove over icy roads to witness the ceremony and afterwards, to enjoy a Buffet Tea, served in the Large Ballroom. Betty, in proverbial white satin, was smiling and gay and not in the least concerned about the weather!

Tuesday, January 2, 1945 Fair and Cold

The wedding consumed so much of our time and attention yesterday that another holiday party was almost overlooked. And it was a happy occasion, too. It was a kind of mixture of wedding anniversary and birthday celebration. The honored guests were the Borden family of Sudbury. About twenty neighbors and friends gathered in the Large Dining Room to partake of a turkey dinner, thus starting the New Year in this festive way.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Wednesday, January 3, 1945 Clear

Little feathered friends who make the environs of the Wayside Inn their homeland, have not been forgotten during the cold winter weather. Miss Fisher has provided a bird - house for them and has attached it to a tree near the dining porch windows. Feathered friends have not discovered it as yet, however. So far, only the squirrels have approved it. They have tapped on the door and run around the tree several times to show their appreciation. Soon, we expect to see twittering groups of sparrows and woodpeckers holding a housewarming!

Thursday, January 4, 1945 Fair

Old copies of the "Farmer's Almanac" have furnished Mrs. Alice L. Kimball of Northboro, Mass. with some high-lights on stage coaching. At one time, a stage left Boston for Washington City via Worcester. One of the coaches came through Sudbury, early in 1800, leaving from an Inn called Earle's in Boston. Stages did not always start at the time advertised. They might leave at three in the morning instead of five o'clock as scheduled! Mrs. Kimball, a recent guest, is preparing a paper on old taverns for the Northboro Historical Society and volunteered to pass on some of the information for our historical file.

Friday, January 5, 1945 Cold

The picture of an old Cape Cod Windmill adorns the cover of a 1945 calendar, just received. The calendar, sent out by the Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company, is called a "Calendar of Old Mills in New England". As picturesque as any therein is our own Wayside Inn Grist Mill. Among others shown is the Stuart Snuff Mill in North Kingston, Rhode Island, where Gilbert Stuart, the famous portrait painter of Colonial days, was born. Another interesting mill pictured is the old mill at Scituate, Mass., built about 1703 by Mordecai Lincoln, an ancester of Abraham Lincoln.

Saturday, January 6, 1945 Dreary

The Wayside Inn was the setting recently for a dinner party given in honor of a high ranking Naval officer. Three Lieutenant Commanders were present - not from the regular Navy, but from the Waves; smart,

Saturday, January 6, 1945 (continued,

middle aged women in Navy blue, trimmed with yards of gold braid. A regular Navy Lieutenant, a house guest, noticed the Lieutenant Commanders in the dining room and exclaimed to his pretty bride "Gee - whiz! Three Lieutenant Commanders in the Waves! Why, they are as scarse as Colonels in the Marine Corps!"

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, January 7, 1945 Snowstorm

Longfellow or Whittier could have described the Inn as it appeared today far better than the writer of this journal. For the Inn was enveloped in snow. It was not the kind of storm described by Whittier in "Snowbound". This was different in character; slower, more moderate, and very gentle. But, it laid a fleecy, white blanket over leafless trees and frozen earth and wrapped itself around the Inn. A few guests ventured forth. Old Dr. Bell and his tiny grandson would have pleased Dickens as they trudged down the path; two shadowy silhouettes behind a thin white veil. Dr. Bell's bulky figure limped. He was supported on one side by a sturdy cane and on the other, by the hand of a little red-haired boy.

Monday, January 8, 1945 Cold

Christmas has come and gone but tonight it was revived. Colored tissue paper and gay ribbons were strewn around the Parlor as nine young ladies from Marlboro opened Christmas gifts. They chose a turkey dinner for their celebration and the Parlor hearth fire as a cosy setting for "tree" ceremonies. The tree was lacking, however, and Santa Claus did not put in an appearance. Nevertheless, a good time was had by all; all, belonging to a church club.

Tuesday, January 9, 1945 Cold

Two weeks ago

Voice on the telephone: "Please arrange a dinner party for ten on the night of Tuesday, January 9th. The name. Lieutenant Ziegler.

Tonight

A long table in the Old Dining Room
Places set for ten.
A Steak Dinner
Lieutenant Ziegler - a Wave
Nine others - High-ranking Wave Officers
The occasion - An officer being detached and sent to California

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Wednesday, January 10, 1945 Stormy

It is time to think about the Wayside Inn Retreat and the Fraters. Sunday, January 21 is the date set and Dr. Etz has sent in a list of those who expect to attend. Among them will be Dr. William Wallace Rose. His parish is in Lynn, Mass. and news of his work there comes to us every week in his church pamphlet. Often, this little sheet gives us something fine and inspirational to remember. Today, it is a short poem called "The Human Touch".

" 'Tis the human touch in this world that counts, ---
The touch of your hand and mine,
Which means far more to the fainting heart
Than shelter and bread and wine.
For shelter is gone when the night is o'er.
And bread lasts only a day;
But the touch of the hand, and the sound of the voice
Live on in the soul alway! "

(Authorship unknown)

Thursday, January 11, 1945 Colder

" This is a copy of an old etching of
the Wayside Inn as it appeared in
1880. Painted by Axel G. Christensen
and presented to Sam Squires by the
girls of the Ford Motor Company to
express our affection for him."

Thus, reads an inscription on the back of a little oil painting. The painting was passed around among our guests this evening; thirty executives of the Ford Plant in Somerville. They were here to honor two faithful employees, Samuel E. Squires and Harry Woodward, both in the company for over thirty - five years. And honor them they did with a very fine dinner. Not only was the food planned with the utmost care, but every detail of the table setting was thoughtfully arranged. Hand-made place cards depicted early New England scenes and a lovely large orchid awaited every lady at her table place. A carnation was provided for every gentleman. Large bouquets of Spring flowers adorned the center of the table which was placed in a T- shape, near the fireplace.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Friday, January 12, 1945 Bleak

The Inn has entertained almost every kind of a champion except a pistol champion. Today, the pistol - shooting champion of the United States Revolver Association was a luncheon guest of Mrs. Purdy. And to make the title more distinctive, the champion is a very feminine charming housewife! Her home is in Arlington, Mass. Four years ago, Mrs. Knight shot a handgun for the first time in her life. Last year, she took first place in seven out of eight pistol shooting matches. Never before, had a woman won a senior outdoor match. Mrs. Knight, like most of the champions we have met, is modest and unassuming.

Saturday, January 13, 1945 Cold

Two large dinner parties were served here this evening. The larger one consisted of 75 people, who honored Mr. William W. Peabody. His work, for the past sixteen years, has been with the Metropolitan District Water Supply Commission - and, in particular, at the Quabbin Reservoir, in the western part of the state. Place cards were original in design and showed a fine photograph of the Reservoir.

Forty - six neighbors and friends from the vicinity of Newton, Mass. also enjoyed the facilities of the Inn this evening. After dinner in the Old Dining Room, they spent two or three hours dancing in the large Ballroom, with Mr. Haynes directing Quadrilles, the Duchess, and such.

Missing Jan. 14-Jan. 20, 1945

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, January 21, 1945 Pleasant

43rd ANNUAL RETREAT
UNIVERSALIST MINISTERS

A bright Winter Sun looked down upon the Inn today and added it's bit of warmth to the Welcome which awaited eighteen ministers. Frater Kapp came from northern New York a day ahead and lent a cheery smile and cordial handshake as the 43rd annual Retreat began. Among the first to arrive was dear Dr. John van Schaick. He is one of the few older men - and tucked under his arm was a thoughtful gift for the Inn; papers, pictures and manuscripts concerning the Poet in the "Tales of a Wayside Inn".

It wasn't long before Gus Leining was settled down near the fireplace with a book. Frater Rose wandered out to the Old Kitchen. D r. Etz passed around a neatly framed picture of his sailor son. Frater Ellenwood's wife sent a large box of pecans. Rice, one of the newer members just looked on and listened. Supper was served in the old dining room and the evening slipped by quickly as more members arrived. There was good talk and laughter. At ten o'clock Frater Lobdell, who is the Prior this year, called the Fraters together in the Old Kitchen. In the quiet of this historic old Inn a deep,ministerial voice began - "Father, we thank Thee - - - "

Fraters Kapp and Lobdell

Monday, January 22, 1945 Snow-showers

Frater Etz gave a talk this morning on "Roots of our Faith in Hebrew Culture". This led to further discussion until Lunch time. Then followed the "Quiet Hour". This is a period when some of the ministers go to their rooms while others meditate in a remote corner of the Old Kitchen or sit quietly in the Longfellow Parlor.

Snow showers helped to make the day a pleasurable one; all enjoy a good Winter walk. Two were seen on skiis climbing the low hill in front of the Inn. Towards sun-down they came in, one by one or in twos and threes and gathered in the Bar-room where a few "wise cracks" were heard - or should we say nut cracks? Mrs. Ellenwood's pecans furnished much "cracking" such as "Why don't you 'nuts' throw your shells into the fireplace?" In a few minutes the laughter had ceased and the Retreat-ers had again re-treated to the Old Kitchen. This time to hear Dean Skinner of Tufts College talk on "The Symbolic Interpretation of Worship". Dinner followed and at 8 o'clock Frater Lalone entertained with "Vachel Lindsay Peoneer Singer of American Ideals". As usual the Inn family retired early, leaving the Fraters to their nut cracking; some of it serious and some of it gay - but all of it kindly and wise.

Tuesday, January 23, 1945 Pleasant

On this day the Fraters have seemed to settle down. They are in for deep, theological talk and they write letters to needy parish-oners. They appear in comfortable slippers and tweed jackets. They follow a routine. A stranger looking in might think that these ministers were here permanently! But no, already there are two leave-takings; Dr. Kapp must return to St. Lawrence University and Ellenwood is called to Woonsocket for a funeral.

The day starts with the annual Business meeting. Robert Cummins, Universalist church Superintendent, talks on "Liberal Religion in the Developement of American Culture" and in the afternoon F rater Fred Leining gives a program under the title "Preaching in the War and Post War Worlds".

The program scheduled for Tuesday evening is always fun. This year the tradition was carried on with Fraters Fred Leining and Wallace Rose furnishing the amusement. Both write weekly church papers and both are able writers. There has been a little rivalry. Tonight

continued next page

Tuesday, January 23 - continued

Fred Leining presented diploma and"Hood"to Wallace Rose for having completed at last, an elementary course in journalism! Further entertainment of a different sort was provided by Miss Fisher at the piano and Herman Gehr with his violin - brought from Philadelphia by the "Ole Bull" of the group.

A fitting gift was presented to Frater Huntley to acknowledge his twenty-fifth year of membership in the Retreat. The evening ended - how? Only the Fraters know and they will never tell. Wayside Inn Retreat fellowship is a sacred thing.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Wednesday, January 24, 1945 Pleasant

After the Communion service, which is held in quiet simplicity in the Old Kitchen, the Fraters prepare to leave. Dr. John always bids farewell with a gentle handshake; never forgetting to add a word of cheer. Most of the younger men leave in groups of three or four. Dr. Hoyt is returning to Portland, Maine and Dr. Ulrich, who is wont to take a vacation at this time of year, is going back to his rural community work in North Carolina. Fred Leining and Reamon are the last to leave. Jovial Fred remarks as he is waiting for the Bus: "This is the first time I've heard the clock tick. There has been too much talk!" Tall, good-looking Ellsworth Reamon, President of the Universalist Church of America, is one who has not made "much talk" but his few final words linger. They are sincere and express the sentiment of all who were here.

"It has been a very fine Retreat this year".

Thursday, January 25, 1945 Pleasant

Gleanings

Rev. Stanley Manning, experiencing his first Retreat as a guest of the Fraters, jotted down a bit of his family geneology. He is a direct descendant of Samuel Howe, first landlord of the Inn.

A pamphlet announcing the establishment of a Frederic William Perkins Foundation, was distributed among the ministers. Dr. Perkins was one of the three charter members of the Retreat and attended it for forty successive years.

Fraters discussed at length the recent decision made by the Federal Council of Churches to reject the application of the Universalist Church of America for membership.

Friday, January 26, 1945 Pleasant, very cold

Another minister (not a Frater) is spending a night and a day here with his wife; two young people who are doing excellent parish work in New Bedford, Mass. Reverend Lowell, after meditating in front of the open fire this morning, spoke these words: "This is a place where you feel detached from the hum-drum of the World. Here you can <u>think</u> and rest".

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Saturday, January 27, 1945 Very cold

A letter received from Frater George E. Huntley brings to a close this week of minister-guests. Dr. Huntley expresses his appreciation in three sentences:

> "You and all the members of your staff were exceedingly kind and courteous to the fortunate "Fraters" who once more held their Retreat at the Inn.
>
> Please know that all are deeply and permanently grateful.
>
> I have been privileged to enjoy twenty-five Retreats and I always feel that the last has been the best".

Missing Jan. 28-Feb. 3, 1945

Sunday, February 4, 1945 Pleasant

Dinner over, Mr. W. T. Powell stopped to chat this afternoon about his friend and fellow-worker at Boston University, Reverend William L. Stidger. It was then that the hostess discovered Mr. Powell to be an ordained minister, Consequently, he was made the guest of the Inn. This came as a pleasant surprise and a timely one to both Mr. and Mrs. Powell. They were here to celebrate their 23rd Wedding Anniversary!

Monday, February 5, 1945 Pleasant

Another special event occurred last evening when overnight guests, Corporal and Mrs. James B. Pierce were ushered into the Jerusha Room. This particular room was occupied by Mrs. Pierce's aunt on her wedding night! And this was the wedding night of Mr. and Mrs. Pierce. The Jerusha room was not specified when the reservation was made, but Mrs. Pierce had secretly hoped for it. She has recently come from England, an English nurse. Her husband was not without his sentiment too. He was carrying bags marked "Antarctic Expedition". These belonged to a brother who carried them on his honeymoon as did another brother before him.

Tuesday, February 6, 1945 Pleasant

SERGEANT RALPH DELAGRIECO

Tuesday, February 6, 1945 (cont.)

Sergeant Ralph Delagrieco, Boy's School graduate, returned yesterday from California to give us a verbal picture of his life there in a Redistribution Center. Ralph takes veteran aviators on fishing trips, just for recreation. He dined on a recent evening at the home of Irene Dunne, screen actress. Coming through Chicago on his way East, Ralph stopped to hear a national Radio Broadcast from its home studio. There he was chosen among others in uniform, to say a few words. Ralph called, "Hello, Wayside Inn."

Wednesday, February 7, 1945 Pleasant

A sight seeing tour of Lexington and Concord for twenty-three students from Leslie College, ended this afternoon with dinner served on the dining porch at Wayside Inn. Twenty-three young ladies were weary and tired as they came in for a turkey dinner. This revived them, however, and when dessert was finished they were eager for more sightseeing. A tour of the house was made in organized fashion.

Ten Dennison salesmen, called to the factory office at Framingham from ten different states, were entertained at dinner this evening by Mr. Schneider, home office executive. He is wont to bring such groups to the Inn as they arrive; one in about every two or three months.

Thursday, February 8, 1945 Snow storm

At noon time, Mrs. Willard Worcester, house guest since Tuesday, prepared to leave; to drive her car into Boston. But should she go in the storm? Snow was falling fast and driving was dangerous. No, she would settle down with Whittier's "Snow-bound" and wait. Other house guests, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Howe of Connecticut prepared to stay in for a spell, too. The storm became more intense; it raged. The wind blew and a blizzard ensued. Travelling became a major problem. Busses stopped. Cars were stalled. The telephone buzzed with "storm calls". Two employees couldn't get home. Drifts were drifting while plows plowed. How many feet deep? About one foot and still snowing!

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Friday, February9, 1945 Pleasant

The World is beautifully white. There is a remarkable stillness, broken only by the distant shouts of boys who are breaking trails; boys in single file running down through the center of Dutton Road; the road itself is buried under - and the snow plow is buried, too! No one is stirring at the Inn, not even a mouse!

Trucks with clanking chains arrive. These are loaded with more boys and men and snow shovels. Soon, there is a path to the front door, to the Gate House - and now the big, yellow bull-dozer chugs, chugs along the main road. Guests are waking up. They peer from upper windows and behold the most glorious Winter sight they have ever seen! Mrs. Worcester has donned fur coat and boots and woolen scarf. She looks like a very little person against hugh snowpiles, some fourteen feet high. She stops to admire the Inn; the tiny tufts of cotton white snow on every window sill; and the deep "loaf" on the porch roof. And she exclaims over the clear, deep blue sky above. Being an artist she sees "pink" snow under the windows, a reflection from the house. But the loveliest picture of all is the Martha- Mary Chapel standing straight on its perfectly white hill top with its perfectly white steeple pointing towards the heavenly blue.

All day, the great amount of snow and its removal from highways and byways claims our attention. Many of the Inn family are not atwork today. At least they are not at work here. At home, they are shoveling paths and driveways. Tomorrow there will be plenty of tired arms and lame backs!

Saturday, February 10, 1945 Pleasant

A stocky little girl with two perky blue bows tied in her hair, was a talkative dinner guest this evening. She told about her school and how each morning in Assembly someone is chosen to recite a poem or talk on a place she has visited, At present, our young visitor is learning "The Village Blacksmith". When her turn comes around for a poem she will recite it. "And when I have my Talk", she said, "I'll tell about the Wayside Inn".

Sunday, February 11, 1945 Pleasant

Singing songs around the old square piano in family fashion made this evening an enjoyable one for Mrs. Harold G. Austin and seventeen friends. Mrs. Austin is a Wayside Inn bride and was married in the Martha-Mary Chapel last November. Mr. Austin is now at Pearl Harbor. The singing was preceded by Sunday Night Supper and altogether a good time was had by all. Next time it is hoped that the groom will be here to enjoy such an event.

Monday, February 12, 1945 Pleasant

Mentioned in dispatches from the Italian front, is the River Arno. Longfellow mentions it too in the "Tales of a Wayside Inn". It is in the Student's tale of the "Falcon of Ser Federigo", an Italian story based on a legend from Bocaccio's Decameron.

"One summer morning, when the sun was hot
Weary with labor in his garden plot
On a rude bench beneath his cottage eaves
Ser Federigo sat among the leaves
Of a huge vine, that with its arms outspread
Hung its delicious clusters overhead.
Below him, through the lovely valley, flowed
The river Arno, like a winding road.
And from its banks were lifted high in air
The spires and roofs of Florence called
the Fair".

Tuesday, February 13, 1945 Cloudy

The window shelf behind the Bar is adorned with little spots of color which brighten these Winter days. The spots are tiny blossoms from various plants, brought in by a plant lover, Mrs. G. F. Cutting. She and her son drive over from the other side of the town once a week to have luncheon here. Mrs. Cutting, who is elderly, usually brings a few pink and white azalea blossoms. The other day she brought a slip from a nutmeg geranium. This is growing in a tiny hand-blown vase and soon will be planted in a flower pot.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Wednesday, February 14, 1945 Pleasant

A "Gob" and his girl came in about nine o'clock tonight. They wanted to see the house. Perhaps we should say, he wanted to see the house. Anyway, the young man was the most enthusiastic visitor we have had for some time. He was a minister's son from Texas. Longfellow, Hawthorne and the New England literary lore appealed to him as did the furnishings of the house. He lingered on and on and at last bought a copy of the "Tales" to send to Texas. "Father would love this," he said. Then he hesitated. He wanted to keep the book himself. After a little debating, which was financial in nature, he decided to buy another copy; one for a Methodist minister in Texas and one for a Gob in blue.

Thursday, February 15, 1945 Warmer

To honor a young lady soon to leave for Denver, Colorado, ten of her office-mates in the Curtis Shoe Factory in Marlboro tendered her a dinner party this evening. Singing followed in the old Ball room. When Bus time came the girls scrambled into hats and coats and waited at the end of the walk for the big Red monster which was to carry them home. Alas, the Bus passed by without stopping and the girls spent another hour singing songs.

Friday, February 16, 1945 Pleasant

Gay red paper hearts dancing merrily on the walls, a few cupids here and there, long red and white streamers fluttering; dimly lighted candleabra lending an air of mystery and romance to the lovely Ball-room, the rustling of taffeta, the whispering of silk, the swishing of net as young ladies were swung happily around to the strains of old waltzes, reels and polkas! Excited laughter, the blending of high girlish voices with the deeper tones of the boys and men, the music of the orchestra, could all be heard in the background. The reason? Why, the formal Valentine dance held by the Wayside Inn Boy's School!

Saturday, February 17, 1945 Pleasant

Former Senator Frederick C. Walcott and Mrs. Walcott from Norfolk, Connecticut dropped in for tea this afternoon. "But Orange Pekoe tea", said the Senator,"is not to my liking and I never drink it!" He explained that the poorest, bottom leaves of the tea plant are those given the fancy name of Orange Pekoe. Senator Walcott, who has spent several years in China, brought his own tea along with him, green tea which is the best Chinese brand. Before starting on his way home, the Senator told of his interest in music and was shown the violin which once belonged to Ole Bull.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, February 18, 1945 Cold

In an unusual wedding gown of cream colored, brocaded satin, Miss Grace Hinckley walked down the aisle of the Martha - Mary Chapel this afternoon to become the bride of Lieutenant D. A. Linscott. The sun smiled down on the happy couple as the wedding party and over one hundred guests adjourned to the Inn for a wedding supper. This was a War romance; the bride, eighteen years old and the groom, twenty. "And we've only been together a little over three weeks", explained the blushing bride. We learned, however, that the couple have known each other about two years; Uncle Sam's mail service playing the part of cupid. Managing the details of the wedding and reception was the bride's mother, who lives at "Colonial Acres" in Concord, Mass., where she lectureson period furnuture, interior decoration, etc. The Inn, then, provided just the right setting and atmosphere for this Colonial minded family.

Monday, February 19, 1945 Cold

In the Summer of 1941, Mr. James A. Fitzpatrick, producer of Fitzpatrick Travelogues, made a colored sound picture of the Inn. He asked Miss de Mille and Miss Staples, hostesses, to walk towards the front door as he snapped the picture. This scene later appeared in the Fitzpatrick's Travelogue of New England. It was shown in hundreds of theatres throughout the United States. Today, a letter came from England. It was written by a member of the R. A. F. Said Harry, who visited the Inn about a year ago.

> "The other evening the airbomber and I popped into a news cinema in Nottingham to pass the odd hour. Wasn't I surprised when I saw the Wayside Inn in technicolor. It was one of Fitzpatrick's Travelogues and I am sure I saw you, Miss Staples, walking in the old doorway. How I wished I could be whisked back there!"

Tuesday, February 20,1945 Fair

This is the story of a beautiful English girl who loved the poem "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and of Nazi prison guards who did not. The girl was born in England shortly after the first World War. Her father had served in France and talked of the beautiful French countryside. One day, he moved his little family, wife and daughter, to France. There the child learned the language and could speak both English and French. This War came; the father enlisted; the mother died.The beautiful blonde girl with large blue eyes was left alone. She became a member of the French underground.

Tuesday, (continued)

One night, she met a man who befriended her; he was dressed in civilian clothes and could speak English. But, he tricked the lovely blonde and called the Gestapo. The girl was taken to a German prison camp. She refused to give the names of her companions. She was half starved and every day was given a terrible beating. The brilliant mind broke. She became crazy. She recited nursery rhymes, "Humpty Dumpty" and "Mary Had a Little Lamb" over and over again. This antagonized the guards and knowing that her mind was gone, they released her. She found her way back to Paris - blonde hair the color of ashes and eyes, expressionless. An old friend took her in, but soon afterwards this beautiful girl, who had so infuriated the Nazi with "Mary Had a Little Lamb", died, never knowing that her father, too, had been killed.

Wednesday, February 21, 1945 Fair

Dr. van Schaick's account of the 1945 Retreat has come in the February 17th issue of the Christian Leader. As usual, all of it is good reading. His description of the Old Kitchen this year is particularly noteworthy and he ends it by saying.

> "The Fraters do not debate about spits or Phoebe lamps, but the debates are wiser and kinder because of the message that the Old Kitchen continually is driving home. How can one take a narrow or bigoted or sectarian attitude in the Old Kitchen of the Wayside Inn? A mighty past seems to be continually speaking, a limitless future seems to be beckoning. One gets courage from the unending march of the generations. One gets humility from a knowledge of the contribution each has made."

Thursday, February 22, 1945 Stormy

Miscellaneous

Overnight guests tonight are Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Baptiste who manage a dancing studio on Newbury Street, Boston. Their dancing instruction is of the modern Ballroom variety.

Dinner Guest. "I'm glad I came. Now I'll have something to write about to my son in Australia.

Recent gift: A lovely hooded baby's cradle of early period, presented by Mr. Horace A Beauregard. This will be placed in the Parmenter Sisters' House.

Friday, February 23, 1945 Cold

Our dancing class this evening furnished entertainment and relaxation for one man who has, what his fellow officer called,"a terrifying job". The man is Colonel Kilgore, in charge of 2400 beds for wounded soldiers at Cushing Hospital, Framingham. Tonight, the Colonel's expression was stern as he watched the boys dance and he didn't smile very much. But when his boys, his patients, were mentioned, a soft light appeared in his eyes and a ready smile appeared on his lips. He expressed a keen interest in the Inn and a desire that every one of his boys should see it; boys from the city and boys from the farm, all who are able to walk. Transportation is a problem, but when Spring comes the Colonel says he will arrange for the patients to come in groups of about thirty each.

Saturday, February 24, 1945 Clear

One friend, Mr. Samuel Chamberlain, who compiled our best-seller book "Longfellow's Wayside Inn - A Camera Impression" has been decorated with the Bronze Star. Mr. Chamberlain, who has been in the War for two years or more, is a member of the Army Air Forces Evaluation Board in the Mediterranean Theatre. The citation reads: "For aid in compiling, editing, and interpreting photographic intelligence data on enemy targets." This is the second medal awarded Mr. Chamberlain in this War. He received the Legion of Merit last September.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, February 25, 1945 Pleasant

Chatting around the fireplace in the Bar -room this afternoon were an Army Chaplain and his wife, a Navy Ensign and his wife and Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Kienle. On arrival yesterday afternoon, these folks were perfect strangers. To - day they were talking like old friends. Mr. and Mrs. Kienle kindly offered to take the men in uniform to their respective destinations; the ladies were discussing their children etc. A Wayside Inn week - end which may bear the fruit of several ripened friendships!

Monday, February 26, 1945 Cold

The Wayside Inn was the subject of a Radio Broadcast this morning when Priscilla Staples of the Wayside Inn was interviewed by Priscilla Fortesque of Station WEEI in Boston. Priscilla Fortesque directs a program called "Good Morning Ladies" and in a fifteen-minute period she asks her "lady of the day" a good many questions. For instance, she asked Miss Staples this morning, "What were your first impressions of the Wayside Inn?" and "What do you enjoy most about the Wayside Inn?" To the latter question, Miss Staples replied:"I think I enjoy most , just everything about the Wayside Inn!" And then she went on to explain that "everything" meant the lovely rural setting of the Inn, the furniture, the history, the Longfellow association and the present day guests. Other questions, such as "What do you consider the most interesting and thrilling experience you have had at the Inn?" and "What is the most common question asked by the guests?" were duly answered in the required radio time.

Tuesday, February 27, 1945 Cold - Pleasant

Following the usual procedure on February 27th each year, today a wreath was laid on Longfellow's grave at Mount Auburn. Made from white pine and cones from the woods, it made a spot of living green against the dead - white stone and the snow which still covered the ground. Deep drifts were everywhere excepting on the southern slopes where the sun had melted the snow entirely. One could almost see the green grass pushing up in the warmth of the sun and feel a promise of spring in the air.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Wednesday, February 28, 1945 Cold

A real actress and one who has just returned from entertaining our boys overseas was an overnight guest last night. She was Margaret Ledbetter Hammerstein, Red Cross staff assistant, who opened the current Red Cross campaign in Marlboro. Naturally, Mrs. Hammerstein had many interesting things to talk about. She managed a Red Cross Showmobile which toured army camps, A. R. C. Clubs, and Aero Clubs throughout the English countryside. She said that Variety Troupes are particularly popular because the boys can, after enjoying the performance, join in community sings and amateur shows with the assistance of the cast's varied talent.

Thursday, March 1, 1945 Pleasant

A thrilling sight was described today by the driver of a Wayside Inn truck and his assistant. Running over a hill in front of the truck were fourteen deer; deer of all sizes trailing each other in single file, their graceful brown bodies clearly silhouetted against the white snow. And as they vanished one by one into the woods, more deer could be seen through the trees as if a whole herd was gathered there. And the location described was not more than a quarter of a mile from the Inn! Naturally, the men were more than surprised. They hurried back to the Inn to give a glowing word picture of their thrilling experience.

Friday, March 2, 1945 Pleasant

Mrs. Hartlein is one who is doing her "bit". Each week she has guided the wives of Army and Navy men stationed at Harvard College, on a historical tour. They have visited Lexington and Concord and Salem, Paul Revere's House and the Wayside Inn. Several times, Mrs. Hartlein has brought her weekly group to the Inn. Today, she arranged for eighteen luncheons. Some of the girls bring their babies right along with them and today four small children were in the party. Very often, the girls are ex-school teachers and always they are far from home. Mrs. Hartlein usually plans the Wayside Inn visit on a Friday, when dancing classes are in session. Too, these visits are often of a preliminary nature. A second trip is likely to ensue with friend husband along.

Saturday, March 3, 1945 Rainy - Clearing

Why yes! Spring is definitely just around the corner, especially at Wayside Inn! How do we know? Well, just follow any hostess into the old dining room and she will lead you to the lovely bay window there. If you peer out very closely, you will see tiny green shoots pushing their way through the apparently sleeping earth and you will exclaim over the appearance of the first

Saturday, March 3, 1945 (continued)

crocus. If you stay for dinner, you will discover another Spring-like addition on your dining table - large, yellow and violet pansy faces smiling up at you. However, if still in doubt, you may leave the Inn and walk along the lovely, winding road towards Framingham. There you will find soft, fuzzy pussy willows lining your path. Do you believe it now?

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, March 4, 1945 — Very Pleasant

Thirty years' service with one company is quite a record. Mr. Purdy, our manager, has achieved that record and today was given a party to honor the occasion. After surprising Mr. Purdy at his home, ten friends and associates of the Ford Motor Company accompanied the guest of honor to the Inn where dinner was served. A large cake, appropriately decorated, was brought in at dessert time and a center bouquet added a festive touch to the one long table in the center of the dining room. Mr. Purdy thought the secret had been well kept and was genuinely surprised and pleased.

Monday, March 5, 1945 — Fair

It is not often that the Diary has something unpleasant to record. Today, however, the Inn household was deeply concerned over one of the guests, Miss Sarah Stagg, who yesterday was struck by an automobile on the Post Road highway not far from the Inn. Fortunately, Miss Stagg was not knocked unconscious, but complained of leg injuries. This morning, she was carried to the hospital, an x-ray taken, and the report is favorable; no bones broken.

Tuesday, March 6, 1945 — Pleasant

As a result of the recent broadcast, when one of the hostesses was interviewed by Priscilla Fortesque of Station WEEI in Boston, a listener writes that she was especially interested in hearing the broadcast because she happened to be at Plymouth, Vermont, when President Coolidge presented the famous Sap Bucket to Mr. Ford. She was on a motor trip through Vermont at the time and , by chance, had stopped at Plymouth. There, on that very day, the historic event took place and the memory of it is certainly vivid in the listener's mind. She also remembers when quite young, meeting a gentleman 84 years old, whose home was in Sterling, Mass. His mother, Polly Kimball, was the teacher of the Redstone School who sent Mary's lamb home. The listener's name is Mrs. Ethel M. Robinson and she lives at 44 Alden Street, Dedham, Mass.

Wednesday, March 7, 1945 — Pleasant

"Songs of Salvation" is the title of an old Hymn book, dated 1870, which Mrs. Moses Alley presented to the Inn today. The book is quaint in appear - ance and includes many of our familiar hymns, at least, the music is familiar. The words, in some instances, are quite different. The songs are divided as

Wednesday, March 7, 1945 (continued,

follows.

Work Songs	Joy Songs
Welcome Songs	Festival Songs
Prayer Songs	Home Songs
Faith and Hope Songs	Pilgrim Songs
Praise Songs	Heaven Songs

Miss Fisher has placed the book in the music drawer of the Old Spinet in the Parlor and will use it when guests and others gather around for a "sing".

Thursday, March 8, 1945 Very Pleasant

Last week, little white-headed snow-drops blossomed out with their annual message about Spring being "just around the corner". This week, the pussy-willows are putting in an appearance for the same purpose. Pussy-willows are usually quite numerous around the Inn estate and are used for decorations in the house. One of the guests brought in a bright yellow crocus blossom from her garden, while another one asked," Have you seen a robin yet?" No, not yet - but soon. The message of the snow-drops never fails.

Friday, March 9, 1945 Fair

Those who remember twenty years back remember Miss Pelton. Her personality made an indelible impression upon those who were here at that time. Now, Miss Pelton is the supervisor of a small hospital in Boston called "The Channing Home" ·About once a year, she comes to the Inn for a kind of old home day. She looks up old friends and inquires for those who are not here. Tonight, she stayed several hours, going over to the Gate House to see Lena and into the Kitchen to see Maizie. All declared that Miss Pelton had not changed one bit.

Saturday, March 10, 1945 Stormy

Another enjoyable party was held in the Ballroom this evening, preceded by dinner served in the large dining room. The group numbered fifty and was made up of employees of the Bethlehem Steel Company at its Fore River Shipyard. Fore River is located near Hingham, Mass. and is a community which is now overflowing with War workers. The guests tonight were the employees of one particular department. Mr. Haynes directed old fashioned dancing until nearly midnight.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, March 11, 1945 Pleasant

Attracting some attention among Sunday guests today was a middle-aged man in dark blue uniform. It was a uniform of the British Navy and the gentleman was the Captain of a Hospital Ship plying between Canada and England. Undoubtedly, the Captain could have told many a modern tale of ye Wayside Inn, but his hardened face with yet soft sympathetic eyes forbid any questioning. Rather,the Captain was interested in our tales of a Wayside Inn; particularly in the story of the Coolidge Sap Bucket with Edward's name thereon.

Monday, March 12, 1945 Fair

Somewhere in France an American doughboy has converted an old schoolhouse into a small roadside tavern and the sign reads "Wayside Inn". Mine host is Staff Sergeant Ralph Taylor. The story, which appeared in the Boston Post today, says that Taylor was much embarrassed recently when sixty to seventy unexpected guests, on their way to units farther forward, dropped in for lunch. Taylor lived up to the traditions of his famous Wayside Inn back home, however. He said."I'll have something in fifteen minutes." The "something" was steak, French Fried potatoes, grapefruit juice, and chocolate cake. No red points were required.

Tuesday, March 13, 1945 Showers

Children's Chatter

Billy: "I got a book from the library. It was called "Little John from New England" and it told all about the Wayside Inn; the wafer iron and everything."

Sally: "Oh, Mother, this room is old allright. Just look at the cracks!"

Wednesday, March 14, 1945 Pleasant

A young man of teen age thumbed the pages of "The Tales of a Wayside Inn" this evening and displayed considerable interest in them. "Sure I remember 'The Bell of Atri'," he said. "And 'King Robert of Sicily' is a corker". The whole class had studied Longfellow; and, in particular, "The Tales of a Wayside Inn". Mother offered to buy a copy, but she admonished the boy to be sure to read the book.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Thursday, March 15, 1945 — Very Warm

A warm, Spring-like evening brought many guests into the country for dinner and among them were eleven girls from the Dennison Manufacturing Company. They belong to one particular office staff and once a month have a dinner meeting together. When asked what they usually planned for entertainment following dinner, they replied."Oh, we just gossip!"

Friday, March 16, 1945 — Fair

The Inn became a lively resort center this afternoon when thirteen girls from Wellesley College arrived to stay overnight. They rode over on bicycles and were dressed accordingly. Some wore over-alls with fancy plaid shirts while others were attired in proverbial tweed skirts and sweaters. Knapsacks served for suit cases, while a few just tied their "things" in a colored silk scarf. Half the afternoon was spent around the fireplace in the Bar room while the remainder of the daylight was used for exploration out - of - doors. All were gay at the dinner table and spent an interesting evening in the large Ballroom watching the dancing class. Studies and Wellesley College were com - pletely forgotten; at least, temporarily.

Saturday, March 17, 1945 — Cloudy

Now that Spring is on its way, it is hard to recall scenes like these, taken during our real old - fashioned snowstorm on February 8th,1945.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, March 18, 1945 Pleasant

All departments functioned at top speed today, as nearly four hundred people came to the Wayside Inn for their Sunday Dinner. Hostesses said "Hello" and"Good-bye", wrote orders and counted cash. Waitresses set tables, cleared them and served the dinners. Last, but not least, cooks cooked food, placed it on plates and sent it piping hot to the guests. Guests looked through the house, asked questions, chatted with their friends, ate their dinners and walked to the Chapel and Schoolhouse. Many said "A most enjoyable time and a very good dinner."

Monday, March 19, 1945 Warm

An event which should have been recorded in the Diary on the very day it occurred, has just come to our attention. The story was told today by a guest, who sometime ago, was visiting the Inn with friends. When they looked into the old Ballroom, three Army Chaplains were there. "Come waltz with me," called one of the Chaplains to a surprised young lady visitor," and as the tune of a Viennese Waltz was being hummed, the Chaplain whirled his newly found partner around the Ballroom floor. "Just wanted to write my wife in California, that I had danced in the Old Wayside Inn Ballroom," he explained.

Tuesday, March 20, 1945 Warm

Girls in dungarees with loose,checked shirts have flocked to the Inn from Wellesley College during the past few days. Thirteen stayed over last Friday night and three on Saturday night. Two more came in today. The latter arrived on foot, having walked six miles from Framingham Center. Wellesley is having a week's vacation and students have been requested 'not to travel to their homes.' Consequently, the time is being spent in sightseeing and tea-ing at some of New England's famous land marks.

Wednesday, March 21, 1945 Rain

Making the Inn a kind of retreat for meditation and rest, is a minister from Waterbury, Connecticut, who arrived last evening and will remain again tonight. He is Rev. John C. Walker. Also spending the night tonight, are Rev. and Mrs. John C. Hyde of Biddeford, Maine. They are the ~~young~~ couple who often bring young parisioners from their home town, to show them Boston and the Wayside Inn. Boys and girls who haven't had the same opportunities and advantages as city children.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Thursday, March 22, 1945 Very Stormy

The hostess of one of the town's biggest hotels in New York tells a curious fact. Her job is to be adviser, listener to and guide of her hotel's daily guests. They come from all parts of the country, many for their first visit, as do many of the visitors here at the Inn. In the course of a day, this hostess talks to and sees behind the curtains of a pretty fair cross-section of modern America's public. And what do you think these visitors ask her? "I've kept a record for two years," this hotel hostess said. "Ninety-five percentof the questions asked are 'How can we see the Statue of Liberty?'" And, we might add, ninety-five percent of the questions asked a hostess at the Wayside Inn are "How old is the house?"

Friday, March 23, 1945 Rain

Many guests are interested in a little wooden keg which hangs near the fireplace in the Bar room. We have known, of course, that this is called a switchell - jug, used for carrying switchell, or sweetened water, to the men in the fields at haying time. However, we had not discovered the actual recipe for Switchell until recently.The following is taken from an article by J. Almus Russell.

4 quarts cold spring water
1 cup molasses
1 cup vinegar
1 teaspoon ginger
1 cup brown sugar (corn syrup to taste may be substituted)
1 tablespoon oatmeal

Stir all of the ingredients together with a big wooden spoon, and pour into a clean jug.

Saturday, March 24, 1945 Sunny

Instead of a "Laughing Allegra", like Longfellow's daughter, our guest this evening was a "Giggling Allegra". "Yes", said a fond mother, " we named our child for the poet's little girl. Her name is Allegra Larson". This modern Allegra is a stocky blond of about twelve years, with a very girlish giggle.

Sunday, March 25, 1945 Pleasant

Miss Fisher being on a vacation, house guest Robert F. Duncan supplied the Sunday table decorations. He roamed field and forest in search of pussy willows. Returned with a large bunch of miscellaneous tree buds, ground pine and a few "by-gone" pussy willows.

Over three hundred meals were served today, Palm Sunday.

Helping on the Hostess staff through Sunday afternoons and evenings, is Mrs. Jane Bennett teacher in the Southwest school. Mrs. Bennett has previously served as hostess during the Summer months.

Monday, March 26, 1945 Pleasant

Within the four walls of the Parlor where Longfellow found inspiration for his poems, another poet today scratched off this merry jingle.

I enjoyed my visit
Bards of old
And read the tales
You had told.

Return I hope
To someday
Right now I must be
On my way

The poem was found tucked away behind a picture. The modest author signed his initials - JMB. Suspicion rests between two young Navy ensigns who lingered long in the Parlor.

Tuesday, March 27, 1945 Very warm

Lilac buds are budding and green grass is getting greener in the warm sunshine of unusually warm weather. The themometer has broken all records for these last March days. The temperature has been between 70 and 80 degrees.

Tonight another group of Dennison salesmen were here. Twelve representatives averaged 36 years in the Company's service. Dinner was followed by a meeting in the old kitchen.

Wednesday, March 28, 1945 Very warm

THE SECOND
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT

March 23, 1945

The WaysideInn
Sudbury, Mass.

My dear Friends.

I want to thank you most sincerely for your very gracious hospitality. I have been feeling a bit tired and nervous and I was supposed to get away for a couple of days. The Wayside Inn was absolutely ideal for a arest. I loved everything about the Inn. Years ago when I stopped overnight with you I wrote Mr. Ford but I thought this time I would write you at the Inn.

Please add my word of thanks to that of many others who have profited by Mr. Ford's generosity to the men of my profession.

With my very best thanks.

Yours very cordially,

(signed) JOHN C. WALKER

Thursday, March 29, 1945 Warm

Five Army Signal Corps men arrived this morning prepared to take pictures of the Inn. Expensive cameras, slung on shoulder straps, were finally focused on the house as the boys found a good spot from which to snap their pictures. Then they came into the Bar room and registered from Ohio, New York, Wisconsin and Massachusetts.

Friday, March 30, 1945 Cooler

Foreign places have been represented here recently by the following guests.

Ole Braken - Norway

Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Warren - Jarnshedpur, India

Ann Orland - Cairo, Egypt

Mrs. S. Foley - London, England

Garnett Gardiner - Shanghai, China

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Saturday, March 31, 1945 Pleasant

A boy on a bicycle returned today bringing two friends, all Boy Scouts trying to run 50 miles over the road in an endurance test. Besides being thrilled by their fifty-mile ride, the boys were pleased to discover at the half way point a place which was restful and interesting. They went through the house, walked to the Mary Lamb school and crossed the highway to the Mill. Then they hopped on their bikes, refreshed and eager for the return trip.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday April 1, 1945 Very Pleasant

EASTER

Southern friends would have called this a "pretty" day. It was "pretty" both inside and out. An early Spring warmth had prettied the country side with bursting buds and lacy green leaves, while inside, pretty light suits and flowery hats made our feminine guests very beautiful to look upon. And interspersed among the six hundred guests were many in Navy blue or Army khaki. "How do you like your roast beef?" one gold braided ensign was asked. "Oh, I'll take it any way you want to give it to me" said he. Then he added. "In the Navy we have it thrown at us!" Another army veteran in a party of four spoke appreciatively of the turkey dinner. "That was the best meal I've had since coming home from the South Pacific" he said. Also dressed prettily for Easter were young Army and Navy wives. Even the charming Old Inn itself was further beautified with bright yellow jonquils and sprays of golden forsythia. Southerners or Northerners all would agree that Easter day, 1945, was a "pretty" one.

Monday, April 2, 1945 Cloudy

Guests danced to the strains of lovely Viennese waltzes this afternoon following the wedding reception and breakfast of Miss Elizabeth Quigg. Miss Quigg was married earlier in the day in Waltham to a tall, blonde Navy ensign. Their guests, numbering over one hundred, included several bridesmaids dressed in soft, billowy yellow tulle and the Best Man. Also the parents of bride and groom. After about an hour of dancing in the large Ball-room the bride "threw" her bouquet and the couple were off for a short honeymoon.

Tuesday, April 3, 1945 Colder

Sojourning here after the Lenten season and Easter are two Episcopal clergymen. They are Rev. Gordon Bennett of Newton and Rev. Howard M. Lowell of New Bedford who have brought their wives to spend a few days away from small children and parish cares. After a day of reading and writing and resting, Mrs. Bennett expressed her appreciation this way. "I can't believe its true, that there is such a place as this!"

Wednesday, April 4, 1945 Cold

Wayside Inn hostesses are often made the recipients of a little gift. Sometimes it is a box of candy. The other day, a frequent guest, Mr. Whittemore, brought two packs of playing cards. But the most unusual token of gratitude to be passed across the Bar, came yesterday from Dr. K. P. Ehn. He had telephoned from New York, made reservations for his wife and daughter and upon arrival wanted to show his gratitude for a night's lodging at this famous hostelry. After making a short

Wednesday, April 4, 1945 (continued)

Speech to that effect, Dr. Ehn brought forth a tooth brush, neatly cased in glass and made by Squibb and Company. It seems that Dr. Ehn works in the dental laboratory of the Squibb Company. The hostess, of course, was particularly pleased with this practical gift and is anxious to try the new bent handle, made from plastics.

Thursday, April 5, 1945 Cold

Jerry Wood was a popular boy when in the Wayside School, and since graduating in 1943, his whereabouts have been followed with interest. This week a War Correspondent on the Western front sent a dispatch to the Boston Globe about Jerry. He was shot down over Germany and landed "right in the middle" of the Rhine River. Jerry thought sure he was a "goner". But he finally made the bank and got rid of his electrically heated flying suit. Then, after a night or two spent in a barn 'within the German lines", he made his way back to American Territory, dodging many Germans en route. Now he is again based in Engla..d and the Correspondent adds "there is nothing the matter with Jerry".

Friday, April 6, 1945 Pleasant

Tonight we learned from over night guest Mrs. M. Thorner, that much can be accomplished and hidden talents developed, when one is over sixty. She was speaking, in particular of her husband, who a few years before he died, discovered a great talent for painting. He has left six very fine landscapes done after he confessed to one of his teachers that "he could never paint". Mr. and Mrs. Thorner founded Camp Truda in Oxford, Maine. "Not a regular type of camp," said Mrs. Thorner, "but one which emphasizes the cultural things - painting, music etc." The camp accommodates about one hundred girls between the ages of six and eighteen. Mrs. Thorner was on her way back to New Jersey after making preparations to open the camp for the Summer season.

Saturday, April 7, 1945 Pleasant

Driving from New York towards the Wayside Inn, one of our guests today picked up a Navy man who was standing by the roadside. She gave him a "lift" and on the way learned how one of our War Heroes feels upon his return home. "I was in four of the toughest campaigns out there in the Pacific" he said, "and I haven't got a scratch on me. I can't believe its true and I'm so grateful to be home I'll never complain again about anything. I'll wash dishes, make beds, hoe in the garden, rake the lawn or cook without a whimper."

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, April 8, 1945 — Very Pleasant

The Diary is a kind of mirror which should reflect certain characteristics of the time. This War time has been reflected in the Diary on numerous occasions, by men and women in uniform and of the conversation of our guests. But another "sign of the times" is the food situation. The Diary hasn't recorded the fact that beef is scarce or that butter requires 24 red points. Mother finds it difficult to provide the family with the usual Sunday dinner. Consequently, public eating places are jammed. So, today The Wayside Inn was jammed with several hundred guests, seeking here what they couldn't find on the pantry shelf.

Monday, April 9, 1945 — Pleasant

The antlers hanging over the mantle in the Bar room recalled the younger days of a little old lady who came in for luncheon today. She was a gently, sweet sort of a person, of whom one might say, "Why she would never harm a fly." So, imagine our amazement when after gazing at the antlers for a few moments, our demure little guest announced, "Those antlers remind me of the West and my girlhood, I used to go out and shoot buffaloes myself".

Tuesday, April 10, 1945 — Pleasant

A recent addition to the Inn Library is a circular about the Shakers; their history and the industrial enterprises they pursued, such as weaving and the cultivation of herbs. It is claimed that the Shakers were the first in this country to originate the business of preparing and cultivating medicinal herbs. This industry was begun soon after 1800. About fifty years later, the Shakers had the conveniences of more efficient machinery and our circular quotes the view of Elisha Myrick, one of the Harvard Shakers, on this subject. "With the improvement of machinery the most laborious part of our work indoors is performed without requiring so much hard labor from human hands. We hail with delight every improvement relieving human toil or facilitating labor, thus giving time and opportunity for moral, mechanical, scientific and intellectual improvement and the cultivation of the finer and higher qualities of the human mind".

Wednesday, April 11, 1945 — Very Warm

The mild, refined voice of a cultured New England gentleman came over the telephone this afternoon to inquire about accommodations for overnight guests. The gentleman gave his name, Mr. Baldi, and said that he and his wife would come out later to look at rooms. Later, at dinner time, about six o'clock, and as the Hostess and Mr and Mrs Baldi were descending the stairs after looking at available rooms, Mr Baldi whispered, "We must come on the 19th because it is our anniversary." With this announcement, the Hostess smiled, thinking of course, that the anniversary was in recognition of a wedding. But, Mr Baldi went on "You see, it was just a year ago that our son was killed in action."

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Thursday, April 12, 1945 — Very Warm

Correspondence from Alvin G Whitney, Assistant Director of the New York State Museum at Albany, reveals the fact that he and Mrs Whitney found comfort through the long winter months by thoughts of their visit to the Inn. He writes: "Although Sudbury and the Wayside Inn and that lovely September landscape never failed from our memory through the severe winter weather, now, with the advent of an astonishingly early spring, Mrs Whitney and I are wishing it were possible to again travel that way."

Friday, April 13, 1945 — Very Warm

A beautiful Spring day, a day of May time with lilac blossoms in bud and the feathery haze of tiny leaves making the landscape a beautiful background. This was the kind of evening when people from the city have an urge to drive out to Sudbury and the Inn for dinner. But, the guests were conspicuous by their absence. And the deep stillness which surrounded the Inn gave one a feeling that the whole world had been hushed into silence. A reverent spirit prevailed, guests walked quietly through the rooms almost on a tip-toe and conversed very little. A long, slow funeral train made its way North towards Washington bearing a flag draped coffin, bearing our late President Roosevelt. Our new President Harry S Truman, will carry on. The Inn remained quiet between the hours of four and six this afternoon out of respect to President Roosevelt. No meals were served and quietness prevailed. A memorial service was held in the Martha-Mary Chapel this morning, conducted by the Wayside Inn Boys School.

Saturday, April 14, 1945 — Lovely

Frank Buxton, editor of the Boston Herald and Mrs Buxton are overnight guests. Mr and Mrs Booker missed their usual Saturday dinner at the Inn. "They were invited out."

[illegible]

[illegible], April 14, 1943 — Tory Cave

[illegible]

[illegible], April 13, 1943 — Tory Cave

[illegible]

[illegible], April 14, 1943 — Gently

[illegible]

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, April 15, 1945 — Cold and Fair

Apple blossoms are in bloom today, and branches of wild cherry decorated our dining room tables. The hundreds of people served seemed to be unusually pleased with everything. The house, the food and countryside. Things have been bursting into bloom in the summer heat of the last few days. Lilacs in bloom by the 13th of April is an unheard of thing but it is going to happen this year. This is a record-breaking spring!

Monday, April 16, 1945 — Cool and Cloudy

In the midst of all the hurly burly on a busy day, Anna is never ruffled. Whatever happens she remains calm and collected. People ask her frequently to wait on them. They like her unhurried ways. She has a love of flowers and plants and can make almost anything grow. Today, she noticed in one of her walks from the Gate House, a branch of wild cherry driving high up out of the crotch of a large Ash near the Inn. This little tree is in bloom now having somehow found a foot hold and protection from the cold North winds in the big branches of the old tree.

Tuesday, April 17, 1945 — Still Cool

Mr and Mrs Edward Newton have come to spend a few days with us. They are bride and groom and what is even more noteworthy, Eddie is a graduate of the Wayside Inn Boys School. He enlisted in U. S. Maritime Service after working for a while with the Ford Motor Co. in Somerville, Mass. On board the tanker "Glenpool" he went to the West Indies and later on, another tanker visited England, Italy, Egypt and Palestine. His experiences in the Holy Land were most interesting and Eddie kept us highly entertained. Then he wanted to hear some of the old dance tunes and another hour flew by, singing and playing. His wife seems very sweet and understanding, as of course, Eddie shows the strain under which he has been living.

Wednesday, April 18, 1945 — Fair and Warmer

A large Army beach wagon drew up to the Inn Door, and peeking out through the windows were seven of our wounded heroes from Carlisle Hospital. An Army nurse entered the Inn and apologized for the boys, they were unable to leave the wagon, and as this was a half holiday for them, they were interested in retaining points of interest, via wagon. Each lad was given a post card set of six different views of the inside of the Inn, points of travel, and they proceeded on their tour.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Thursday, April 19, 1945 — Cool and Fair

Not expecting a busy day, judging from past records on this holiday we were surprised to count up a total of 760 meals served. There are so many other attractions on this day, many parades, the famous Marathon from Lexington to Boston not to mention Paul Revere's historic ride realistically produced by a member of the American Legion. People seemed to realize that Longfellow's Inn was also the fitting place to visit on the 170th Anniversary of the famous battle at the Old North Bridge in Concord.

Friday, April 20, 1945 — Cool

Several of "our boys in the Service" have called to see us lately, looking older and more serious than when they graduated from the School - like Eddie Newton, they had many a varied experience. Wallace Welch however is the exception, as he has never left the United States. He brought his wife to see us. Murphy is another exception he hasn't really graduated yet, but went into the Navy just recently. The boys and girls at dancing class tonight were glad to have him join and he hadn't forgotten the steps. By request, "Anchors Away" was played for the final march and they all departed singing.

Saturday, April 21, 1945 — Cool and Fair

This weekend has brought a very congenial group of house guests to the Inn. Mr Welch, a Harvard Professor and his wife, and a young couple on their honeymoon, Ensign and Mrs Cross. Last evening the conversation turned to fishing so a trip was planned for today, guided by Mr Brisbrook. They fished in several neighboring ponds, ate a picnic lunch out of doors, and came home in the late afternoon tired but happy. But many fish were caught but for a time the War and its anxieties were forgotten. Mr and Mrs Welch lost an only son killed in action about a year ago and the Crosses are facing separation when he leaves for duty overseas.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, April 22, 1945 — Very windy - Fair

Cold nights have prevented the lilacs from blooming until today when they are in their prime. Their perfume fills the house. In the midst of this busy day a service man appeared in the Barroom and we recognized Gordon Randall, another graduate of the Wayside Inn Boys School home on furlough. He has several decorations but he is most proud of the stripes which mean 37 months in the service. Gordon is in the Army Air Corps and most of that time was spent in the South Pacific.

Monday, April 23, 1945 — Still Cold

Every one feels sad today as Agnes and Lena have informed us that they are planning to leave the Wayside Inn. After so many years of loyal service they deserve a rest and change but we will all miss them very much. Their places will be hard to fill as no one else could possibly have the same interest in the work or give of themselves as unreservedly as these two faithful souls.

Tuesday, April 24, 1945 — Frost

Besides the Marlboro Tuesday Club with its thirty-five members, we had for luncheon guests today the Stow Women's Club with fifty-four members present. This group had planned a very interesting entertainment and after luncheon all ajourned to the large Ball Room. To the soft strains of piano and cello, different ladies, dressed in old-fashioned costumes, circled the Ball Room. Each one stopped and told interesting facts about her dress, courtsied, and continued her slow walk. One wedding gown seventy-five years old, received loud applause. It was a lovely blue taffeta with hoop skirt. A quaint little old lady with black bonnet and shawl said, "All I know is it belonged to Aunt Mary."

Wednesday, April 25, 1945

A very quiet day, probably due to the inclement weather. Two ladies, one from New Bedford, the other from Worcester met here for lunch. During their friendly chat by the fire, one mentioned the fact that she had a lovely garden once but since living in a hotel she missed it very much. She admired our lilacs and was very pleased to carry some home to liven up her room.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

(continued)

Thursday, April 26, 1945 Cloudy

Mr and Mrs David J. Roche were married today in the Martha - Mary Chapel. The simple service was conducted by a Coast Guard Chaplain as the groom belonged to that branch of the Service. A handsome young boy with a fine baritone voice, also in Coast Guard uniform, sang "Because" just before the ringing of the bell which was the signal for the wedding march. After the ceremony the Chaplain, like a little boy, asked if he could ring the bell again himself. Luncheon was served at the Inn to just the family and one or two friends.

Friday, April 27, 1945 Cool and Cloudy

Mr and Mrs Jack Haytin, Mayor of Helena, Montana, were among the guests today. The chauffeur, a man from the Bethlehem Steel Company give their secret away. Mrs Haytin is going to launch a ship named "Helena" tomorrow in honor of the one that sank.

Saturday, April 28, 1945

Hardly a day goes by but that some one remarks upon the cleanliness of the Inn. It does seem as if it were looking its best these days. The pewter glows with a new lustre, and every bit of brass sparkles, the curtains are crisp and snowy white and all the furniture has been rubbed to bring out the old patina. People notice the hooked rugs more and tonight Mrs. Bowker brought a friend especially to see them and get ideas. They are both expert hookers.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Week of April 29 - May 5, 1945

Sunday, April 29, 1945 Rain

For the first time in quite awhile lobster was listed on the menu. It was served broiled live and looked very attractive on the hot dinner plates. It was almost as popular as Roast Beef and we were requested to have it as often as possible. In these days of meat shortages we depend more and more upon eggs and fish. Sometimes an omelette appears on the menu and usually two kinds of fish are served each day. We appreciate the humbler things now and are very glad to be able to get them.

Monday, April 30, 1945 Rain

This evening Mr Philip gave a party for one of his employees who was leaving him after working for a period of twenty-five years. He is in the Greeting Card business and the tables were most attractively decorated with May baskets. Thirty-seven people, all employees, were present and he was much surprised by the presentation of a cake at the end of the dinner, dressed up with lighted candles and 25th Anniversary written in colored icing. Mrs Purdy entertained her mother and father at a Luncheon today, to commemorate their Fifty-Fifth Wedding Anniversary.

Tuesday, May 1, 1945 Cloudy

On the upper road just opposite the Inn is an oak tree which is centuries old. The men have been cutting away the under brush so that it can be seen. They say it is older than any of those in front of the Inn which Agassiz is known to have said were about 1000 years old.

Wednesday, May 2, 1945 Cloudy

Dainty assorted sandwiches and hot tea were served this afternoon to forty-three members of the Sudbury Women's Club who gathered here for their annual meeting. The day was cold and cloudy, but several bright corsages added color to the occasion and guests felt very much at home. All are Wayside Inn neighbors and many were mothers of Wayside Inn school children.

Thursday, May 3, 1945

There are a few people in the United States who collect, as a hobby, early automobiles. Mr J B VanSciver of Philadelphia is one such collector, and last evening, after registering as an overnight guest, entertained us with pictures of his twenty-two

models. A 1903 Pierce Arrow was shown and a Columbia Fringed Top Surrey of the 1900 era. Mr VanSciver has several rear entrance cars including a 1903 Ford, 1903 Stanley Steamer, 1901 Winton, 1903 Jones Corbin, 1903 Rambler, 1899 Locomobile Steamer, Columbia Electric Victoria 1902, Reo 1904, DeDion 1900.

Friday, May 4, 1945 Cloudy

A new hostess joined the staff today, Mrs Perley C White of Claremont, New Hampshire. Mrs White came down to Boston to do "Grey Lady" work for the Red Cross and has since been in the Dietary at the Mass. General Hospital. She came as a guest to the Inn on several occasions and finally, after making inquiries, decided she would like to make her home here.

Saturday, May 5, 1945 Cloudy

Sir Wilfred Greenfell, the great Laborador missionary, was a frequent guest at the Inn during the last few months of his life. At that time he was living in Boston with Lady Greenfell. enjoyed coming to the Inn for afternoon tea. With V E day approaching, it is well to remember one sentence, written by Sir Grenfell "Not until we can love all races, al so-called nationalities as Christ loved them, are we on the road to Peace on Earth.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, May 6, 1945 Cloudy

Among others coming to the Bar to pay for their dinner, two ladies seemed to be a little more enthusiastic about everything, asking questions in a very pronounced English accent. It seems they were from Australia and were advised by some one out there to come to the Wayside Inn. This person had been to the Inn and had evidently spoken well of it. The ladies said they were not at all disappointed and were delighted that they had taken their friend's advice.

Monday, May 7, 1945 Fair and Warm

Little Peter Lippard, aged three, said when leaving, "It's nice here, but where's the kitchen sink?" He was quite satisfied when shown our copper-lined sink in the flower room.

School boys often come to the Inn for dinner with their parents. We always know the boys from St. Mark's by their broad pronunciations. They seem really interested in the house and today, one was heard to remark to a friend out in the old kitchen, "Well, these beams accentuate the positive" all right.

The Phelps children have always been frequent and very interested visitors. Now that their mother works at the Inn they appear even more often, although they live two or three miles away. Chauncey Phelps arrived the other day and was telling his mother that as he was walking along Dutton Road, something fell behind him--and Mother, he added "If I had been three steps behind myself it would have hit me."

Tuesday, May 8, 1945 Fair and Warm

V E Day

Last night Mr. and Mrs. Mc Curdy were sitting and talking with other House Guests by the Bar room fireplace. During a pause in the conversation Mrs. McCurdy called our attention to the fire where two flames were burning in a perfect V. Talk of victory has been in the air lately so this seemed a good omen. Peace in Europe was declared at 9:00 A.M. this morning. Thanks to Miss Stooles, who furnished the radio, we were able to listen to the actual announcement by President Truman and a short speech from Prime Minister Churchill. Quite an audience had gathered in the Bar room from different parts of the Estate and all felt it had been a momentous occasion, the speeches ended with the Star Spangled Banner and at 11:30 all were invited to attend the Chapel where appropriate excercises were held. Miss Fisher played at the Organ and the Hymns were in keeping with the day.

Wednesday, May 9, 1945 Rain

Miss Hersey, a resident of Boston, and now living at the Myles Standish Hotel, told us of her early memories of the Wayside Inn. She is now over eighty but distinctly remembers her bicycle trips from Cambridge to the Inn back in the Gay Ninties. She rode over dusty, sandy roads, suffered many falls and was glad of the rest and refreshment offered at the Inn. She also recalled that her bicycle had inner tubes in the tires.

Thursday, May 10, 1945 Rain

Mrs. Leonard, our new hostess, has a little boy, Francis, Jr., six and a half years old. Not having to go to school this week he came to spend the day with us. He told Mr. Coulter he was "Doris's little boy" and enjoyed his visit very much,including the baby lambs. He was a visitor at the Mary Lamb School for the whole morning and it was an experience that he hopes will be repeated. We hope Francis will come to see us again soon, as every one liked him and he was easily entertained.

Friday, May 11, 1945 Rain

We had a most pleasant surprise tonight at Dancing Class when Bill Cummings appeared unexpectedly. It was good to see him after his three years overseas. He is in the Air Corps and has five oak leaf clusters, a presidential citation, the purple heart and two medals for outstanding flying. Mr. Haynes was so pleased with the way he danced that he asked Bill to repeat the waltz so all might see "perfect dancing". The couple received loud and prolonged applause when the music stopped. We are hoping Bill can be discharged but in any event, he and his partner of the waltz, are to be married soon.

Saturday, May 12, 1945 Rain

Two young ladies: "What is this room?"

Hostess: "The old ball room".

Whereupon the young ladies exclaimed in unison "Oh, where Lafayette danced?" And they began twirling themselves around the room, thrilled to be dancing on the same floor that the great General had danced upon.

Sunday, May 13, 1945 Rain

MOTHER'S DAY

Mother's day dawned very cloudy--and cold - but the cheery fire that had been started earlier in the morning was so comforting. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce, our Guests were very quietly enjoying the Sunday papers and the Hostess was busy putting the day's work in order. Two young Lieutenants and their wives were sitting on the settle and before we knew it, marshmallows were being toasted on the ends of fork-shaped branches. Our guests started to arrive by twelve o'clock noon and each group, I am sure, had one and two Mothers to be dined and entertained on this special occasion. Flowery hats and lovely corsages brightened the day and Mother's Day ended at the Inn.

Monday, May 14, 1945 Cloudy

The Acton Garden Club descended on us for lunch, after a pilgrimage to Mr. Curtis's lovely wild flower garden. The delicious Luncheon at the Wayside Inn added to the eventful day.

Tuesday, May 15, 1945 Fair

A beautiful day, windy and fair. Distinguished guests for Luncheon included the members of the Malden Red Cross Motor Corps. The sixteen guests were taken on a tour of the House and were most interested and appreciative.

Wednesday, May 16, 1945 Rain

You, no doubt,,have heard of the painter who painted himself up into a corner and couldn't get out! Another angle to this little tale came about this evening. The Old Dining Room floor had just been freshly painted, but guests were served on the porch as usual. A group of genial Carnation Growers were having dinner there in late afternnon which soon changed to night -the porch light switch could be reached only by crossing the freshly painted dining room floor, what to do? Miss Staples finally came to the rescue with the idea of 'planks' over which she lightly tripped to the switch and light dawned again on the porch!

Thursday, May 17, 1945 Cloudy

We have discovered a Mother Robin nesting in the shrubbery outside the bay window of the old dining-room. She is so trusting and confident. We certainly appreciate her neighborliness. Mother Robin is o near that we can look her square in the eye. Wonder what she thinks!

Friday, May 13, 1945 Rain

The weekly dancing class was honored to night by the presence of Sergent Gerald Wood, paratrooper, who has returned to this country after an arduous campaign in Europe. Sgt. Wood was shot down, escaped from his plane and landed in the Rhine river behind German lines. His adventures from then on read like a story book. Sgt. Wood is a Sudbury man and a Wayside Inn Boy's School graduate.

Saturday, May 19, 1945 Cloudy

Distinguished guests for to day included Dr. and Mrs. Napier of London and their guest Dr. Rau of Bengal, India. Major General Goodman had dinner with a guest and caused a little excitement amongst the service people who were dining, and one by one they came over to the Bar to quietly ask "Who is the Major General in the Dining room." Tomorrow, Sunday May 20th is "I Am An American Day" I wonder what great event will happen then.

Sunday, May 20, 1945 Fair and Lovely

I AM AN AMERICAN DAY

Not only the sun,but babies came to visit us today via baskets, arms and little feet and so well-behaved. The Front door was invitingly opened as the day was the first sunny day we had had in quite a while. The Dinner was, as usual, delicious, and guests repeatedly came up to the Hostesses to compliment the Inn.

Monday, May 21, 1945 Sunny

Another of the very few sunny days we have had this month. We appreciate it very much, and even 'Jim' our old white horse is kicking up his heels over in the meadow and swishing his tail out of pure joy at being released from his dark winter quarters. Mrs. Whiting from the Cambridge School brought her group of seventh graders and they, too, enjoyed the sunshine and freedom of the country, but quieted down to come in and see the house and later to have their lunch.

Tuesday, May 22, 1945 Fair and Warm

A May 19th issue of the Boston Globe arrived by mail today and on the front page is the name Bill Cash signed to an article about Sgt. Jerry Wood. Bill is a Wayside Inn Boy School graduate and has appeared many times in the Diary as he has progressed in his newspaper career. We are very proud of his latest achievement. Jerry Wood is also a Wayside Inn Boy School graduate and was written up in a recent Diary as the boy who dropped by parachute into the middle of the Rhine. His exploits won him the title of "Evader" and a sixty-day furlough. These two boys are among the finest the school has produced.

Wednesday, May 23, 1945 High Winds

Forget-me-nots graced our tables today., the only flower that could be found. In spite of a springlike March which forced a great many blossoms ahead of time, we now have a late spring due to the cold and sunless May. And "very cold" is the prediction for tonight. The war came very close to us last evening when the Chief of Police came in and informed two house guests Mr. and Mrs. Lord, that their son had been killed in action. There is little one can do or say at such a time to lessen such grief. Life has to go on just the same and a merry party of employees from Grover Cronin's store in Waltham were entertained until late in the evening.

Thursday, May 24, 1945 Sunny

The medical profession is very well represented among our visitors, and the Doctors and Nurses are most enthusiastic and interested in the house. One Doctor, on his way back to California, said he had to have one more trip to the Wayside Inn before he left as this was one of his favorite places. Tonight four army nurses came to dinner. They were all officers. Major Aikens Lieut.Col Taylor - Capt.McKimin and Lieut. Allen.

Friday, May 25, 1945 Fair

So many inquiries come to us from our guests "What is the beautiful flowering tree at the right of the Inn doorway." Mr. Davio, our gardener, informs us that the tree is "An English Hawnthorne Tree". The grass is a lovely bright healthy color and the boys do a lovely job in keeping it trimmed and cut.

Saturday, May 26, 1945 Cloudy

Mrs. Edith Hutchinson Carpenter was a luncheon guest this noon. She is the daughter of James A. Hutchinson, a partner of Barnum and Bailey Circus. Mrs. Hutchinson wanted to see a poster at our Country Store with her father's picture on it. It was found hanging on the wall. Her father was instrumental in getting Jumbo. Jumbo, the largest elephant in captivity. Jumbo was killed by a train, trying to save her own baby elephant from being run over. Mrs. Hutchinson Carpenter has one of the three pieces of ivory taken from the elephant's tusks.

MISSING MAY 27, 1945-JUNE 9, 1945

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, June 10, 1945 — Cloudy

"Sunday at the Wayside Inn" is the enjoyable way to spend a day - as the personnel of the Inn knows! Mr. Sabin, an elderly gentleman whispered "My mother and father spent their honeymoon here", and Mr and Mrs Walker enjoyed their tenth wedding anniversary. The little lambs across the way, received their full share of attention and "baa-ed" contentedly.

Monday, June 11, 1945 — Cloudy with showers

The weather might be April with its daily round of clouds, sunshine, and intermittent showers. A terrific storm hit us at the six o'clock dinner hour. A party of ministers and their wives arrived from Boston at the height of the downpour. Dampened but not daunted, they were in excellent spirits at theprospect of enjoying Wayside hospitality. Invitations are out for the wedding of Lieut. Allan Durgin and Miss Shirley Hartwell, who are to be married at the Martha Mary Chapel on Sunday, June 24th. Lt. Durgin is a Wayside graduate and has lately returned from active combat with the Air Corps in Italy.

Tuesday, June 12, 1945 — Very warm

A beautifully decorated Ballroom greeted guests who arrived at the annual Wayside Inn Boys School Commencement Ball. Streamers of red, white and blue and skillfully wrought lettering made for a most interesting effect. Mr. Haynes the genial dancing Master, congratulated the committee in charge and called for its members to take a bow.

Wednesday, June 13, 1945 — Very Warm

The Boys School Banquet - Over 100 boys, teachers, relatives and friends partook of the Annual Banquet sponsored by the Boys School. A distinguished guest for Luncheon today was the Rev. Mr. Frazier of Providence. Mr. Frazier is one of the "Fraters" who come annually to the Wayside Inn for a retreat in January.

Thursday, June 14, 1945 — Very, very, warm

Graduation exercises at Chapel. The chapel was well filled with relatives and friends of Wayside School and its graduates of 1945. Charles Richard Webb and Michael Tresco received their certificates as did six other graduates "in absentia".

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

(continued)

Friday, June 15, 1945 Very Hot

Today has had a cosmopolitan flavor in a way. Wrens Burchell and Doran from Surrey and Cornwall, England. Wrens Peggy Wingate and Janet Wevely from Ottawa, Canada, Charles E. Estes from Robert College, Istanbul, Turkey, and Wen Lan Pao is the wife of a dentist who is practicing in the mid-west. She will teach Chinese at an Army base in Colorado for the summer. Mme. Lan Pao, a striking figure in her native dress, made a delightful tour of Wayside - exclaiming over "this or that" with absorbing interest.

Saturday, June 16, 1945 Cloudy

A little story was related to us today about a Reverend Wells. A long time ago, Rev. Wells was asked by a Mr Paine to come to Waltham and take charge of a certain church. One of the inducements offered, was that a coach driven by two horses, would be at the Reverend's command, so that he could drive to the Wayside Inn whenever he desired. Mr and Mrs Bowker arrived, just laden with roses, and the Inn was transformed.

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WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Week of June 17 to June 23

1945

Sunday, June 17, 1945 Fair

About two hundred new signatures were added to our Guest Register today. The Roast Beef was a joy to look at and a pleasure to eat. One gentleman paid his bill and asked the Hostess if she had been able to sample the Beef, "Oh, no", she replied, "but we had nice Roast Lamb for our Dinner and it was cooked to a turn." "Well," said our guest, "I saw the funniest placard in a Butcher's window the other day, on it was printed—"Mary had a little Lamb. I wish I had one too."

Monday, June 18, 1945 Hot

Mrs. Phelps has presented us with an interesting old brochure of Sudbury. In it are many of the old houses among them the Walker Garrison house which is included in the Ford estate. There is also a picture of Mill Village which is now South Sudbury, together with a key and number by which one may locate the Wayside Inn.

Tuesday, June 19, 1945 Very Hot

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Fennel from Manilla, were guests at Wayside Inn today. Mr. Fennel, who was employed as meteorologist for American Airways, has lately been released from a Japanese prison. Chaplain Miller of Washington, D. C. with friends from Camp Devens, was a distinguished visitor at Wayside Inn today. Chaplain Miller is the director of the entire Chaplain training program.

Wednesday, June 20, 1945 Rain

A group of 38 young people—comprising the graduating class of the Belmont Street Prep. School of Worcester, - were visitors today. After Luncheon they made a tour of the house. A talented young member of the party, who had brought her accordion, played several selections thereon.

Thursday, June 21, 1945 Hot

Mr. Williams of Holden, a frequent guest at the Inn, always has something different and amusing to show or tell us about. This time it was a Chinese Lock of polished brass and intricate workmanship. He laid the gadget on the bar and instructed us, or rather defied us to open it. We puzzled over it awhile and finally gave up, after learning that the lock functioned like everything else Chinese-backwards. Mr. Williams knew the "pushee - pullee" combination which worked like a charm with him at the controls.

Friday, June 22, 1945 Fair

Mr. and Mrs. John Rich of Simsbury, Conn., house guests for several days at Wayside Inn, left for home at the first streak of dawn this morning. They had passed an excited and sleepless night and could scarcely wait to be on their way. Reason: Lt. John Rich, Jr. had arrived Thursday on the "Queen Mary", and had phoned them from their home in Connecticut.

Saturday, June 23, 1945 Perfect Day!

The house has been well filled all day with visitors who wish to see, visitors who wish to eat, and visitors who wish to do both. Among the latter were some luncheon guests of Mrs. Bessie Arnold of Boston, who has been a house-guest for several days. Mrs. Arnold had previously made arrangements for your correspondent to take her guests on tour, so after luncheon, we began. These trips are such a pleasure! We hope everybody gets as much pure joy out of conducting parties as we do ourselves.

As we polished off our tour in the parlor, the lovely setting of Longfellow's "Tales of the Wayside Inn", we described the furnishings, pictures, bric-a-brac etc,-"and there is one of Ole Bull's Concert programs. I am a great lover of memorabilia of Ole Bull for my husband's grandfather was Ole Bull's accompanist." This from Mrs. Brown of St. Louis, Mo. who went on to tell of a dramatic incident during one of the concert tours of Ole Bull and Mr. Balmer his accompanist. It seems that on this particular evening, Ole Bull had difficulty in keeping his violin in tune. He deplored this fact to his accompanist, Mr. Balmer, who immediately offered to transpose the selections on their program to a lower key. Anyone who plays, knows what a ~~t~~ upon us task that was! Ole Bull was so grateful to his accompanist, that he stripped a handsome ring from his finger, and gave it to Mr. Balmer. Mrs. Brown tells us that the ring is a treasured heirloom in the family. But the best is yet to come! We got out the precious Ole Bull violins for Mrs. Brown to see. She was enraptured beyond all telling. Being a capable violinist herself, she tuned one of them and fiddled in the lovely Borowski, "Adoration". At the end she said, "I'm so excited and there's such a lump in my throat! I can't help wondering if this is the violin that grandfather knew and loved."

Sunday, June 24, 1945 Fair-Farm

Lt. Allen Durgin, USAAF, just returned from 2 years of service in Italy, was married today at the Martha-Mary Chapel to Miss Shirley Hartwell of Lynn.

Allen, who has been mentioned recently, graduated from the Boys' School in 1940. He, himself, planned the wedding to the last detail, and is the first of "our boys" to be married in the Chapel. It seemed quite appropriate that he should light the candles and arrange the flowers blue and yellow and white just before the bride entered. Reverend Preston, of Marlborough, performed the ceremony at whose church Allen used to sing on Sunday before graduating from the school. As the couple knelt at the Alter, "Oh Perfect Love" was sung very softly by Miss Helen Clarke.

Later in the Old Ball Room at the Inn, many friends gathered to greet the bride and groom. A simple bouffet tea was served and then showers of confetti, the couple disappeared. Allen and Shirley, standing in the doorway of the Chapel in the bright sunlight, make a good looking, happy couple, and may we add to our amazement, we think Allen has chosen a girl worthy to be his wife.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Week of June 24 to June 30

1945

Sunday, June 24, 1945 Pleasant

Amateur photographers have been very busy all afternoon, photographing the Inn, the lambs, and groups of people. The guests were joyful and arrived in small and large groups. The Sunday flower arrangements were, as usual, daintily arranged and the house looked very neat and gay.

Monday, June 25, 1945 Cloudy

Your writer had an interview packed with interest, when correspondent Royal Arch Gunnison came to Wayside Inn as a guest Monday night. His thrilling account of life as a prisoner of the Japs in Manila, his anxiety about his wife who was separated from him and taken to Java, his associations with General McArthur in Manila in 1941, and was also the man at the "mike" on the liberation broadcast in February 1945. Mr. Gunnison has written a book "So Sorry, No Peace", and is vacationing in the East after having covered the San Francisco Conference.

Tuesday, June 26, 1945 Windy

A hurricane is threatening. Very strong winds lash the trees and bow the shrubs and bushes. Mr. H. A. Rice of the U. S. Secret Service, Boston Office, and Mrs. Rice, are here at the Inn to spend their thirtieth wedding anniversary. Mr. Rice is a direct descendant of Deacon Edmund Rice, one of the first settlers of Sudbury. Mr. Rice gave us an interesting interview on the work of the Secret Service, and his association with the film "Know your Money" for which he wrote the script. This film is educational, and had been responsible in part, for a 97% drop in counterfeiting in a little over five years.

Wednesday, June 27, 1945 Windy

A modern version of "Uncle Sam" in the flesh stayed with us Wednesday night. Lt. Krueger of Quonset Point, R. I. bent low through every doorway and telescoped himself over the bar to ask if we had any beds without footboards. We recalled that the room named "Ole Bull" had such a bed, and urged the Lieutenant and his wife up to it. Lt. Krueger beamed his approval of the spacious bed, and just to be curious, we asked him how tall he was. Six feet five and one half in his stocking feet.

Thursday, June 28, 1945 Beautiful Day

Prof. Auer, of Harvard University, was a distinguished dinner guest on Thursday. With Mrs. Auer, and friends from Holland, the party enjoyed the hospitality of Wayside Inn to the utmost.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Week of June 24 to June 30

1945

Friday, June 29, 1945 Very Hot

Today we were glad to welcome again, Miss Mary Earle Gould of Worcester. Miss Gould is an authority on Early American wooden ware, and has written a book thus titled. A copy of this book is in Wayside Inn Library, and we find it one of the most informative hand books on Early Americana.

Saturday, June 30, 1945 Hot

Mr. Kornfeld and his twenty-seven club members, were guests at dinner. The Minutes were read, and little after-dinner speeches were enjoyed.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Week of July 1 to July 7

1945

Sunday, July 1, 1945 — Warm

Another busy Sunday! Over 300 guests were served and the beautiful weather brought many sightseers as well. Mr. Peppejohn and his party of 14 thoroughly enjoyed both dinner and sightseeing. They spent practically the whole day here, in and out of the house. He is a frequent visitor and knows the antiques and their history, and at intervals through the day could be seen explaining the corn sheller or the clock spit to a group of admiring Peppejohns---big and little.

Monday, July 2, 1945 — Very Hot

One hundred and twenty-five associates of the Equitable Life Insurance Company of Boston, sat down to a bounteous dinner at Wayside Inn this evening. Afterwards, square dancing was enjoyed in the Ballroom, with dancing master Haynes, in charge. All reported a delightful time.

Tuesday, July 3, 1945 — Hot

Early this morning one of the old coaches was brought out and inspected in preparation for its entry in the Fourth of July parade at Sudbury. Four ladies in costumes of Colonial days will ride in the coach, and Mr. Arthur Babcock, also in costume, will drive the nice pair of bays.

Eddie Thompkins, U.S.N. and a Wayside Inn Boys' School graduate, was here today to say "hello", and to renew old acquaintances.

Wednesday, July 4, 1945 — Perfect Day

The glorious Fourth has dawned fair and bright. Many guests are registered and Wayside Inn bears an air of festivity. A nice menu with roast beef and broilers tempts the appetite--- we were going to say---of even the most jaded, but nobody has a jaded appetite these days.

Towards mid-afternoon an air of expectancy pervades the place. Something seems about to happen! All at once the grounds are full of people. They file out of the Inn; pour out of cars. A man with a camera dashes up to the best vantage point at the Inn door-way. Ah! here they are! This is what we've been waiting for.

The stage coach comes rolling up the drive, and instantly we are transported back a century and more. Everything seems so natural and fitting. The smooth dirt road, the majestic old trees, the lovely green lawns, the coach moving through the perfect setting to the old, old Inn itself.

July 4, 1945 Continued

Five Colonial dames gowned in colorful costumes of the period, emerge from the ancient vehicle as the door is opened. Looking closer, however, we realize that this is 1945 after all, and that the gracious ladies, who were passengers in the coach, are none other than mesdames: Purdy, Sturtevant, Bowen, Raymond, and Wall.

We should like to mention in passing that this group won second prize in the Sudbury parade, and that the Wayside Inn Boys' School float received first honors.

Thursday, July 5, 1945 Fair and Warm

Luncheon guests today included a group of wives of well known men. Mrs. Leonard, hostess to a party of four, is the wife of the head of the Pepperell Mills. Mrs. Gossett, whose husband heads the Gossett rayon mills in Charlotte, N. C. bought many many postcards of the lovely Inn scenes. This party also included Mrs. Max Gardner of N. C., and Mrs. Walter George of Washington, D. C. whose husband is Senator George.

Friday, July 6, 1945 Nice Summer Day

Mrs. Barbara Dobson of California, was a luncheon guest today. Later, as we wandered through the Inn "on tour", Mrs. Dobson gave us an interesting Washington incident connected with her own family. It seems that when Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Mrs. Dobson's great, great grandfather, Major General Benjamin Lincoln was delegated to receive the Britisher's sword. Although General Washington was present at the ceremony, military ethics prevented him from accepting Cornwallis' sword because of his superior rank.

Saturday, July 7, 1945 Warm

After much uncertainty as to the arrival of the bridegroom, the date of Miss Black's wedding was finally scheduled to take place today in the Martha-Mary Chapel. P.F.C. Donald L. Cushing arrived from England on the Queen Mary just a few days ago. Upon seeing the Chapel, he said he thought it had been built just for his wedding--it just suited him. The ceremony was a simple one and over 70 guests had tea afterwards in the large dining room at the Inn. The day was so lovely, the bride and groom received their friends on the lawn beside the Inn——a lovely setting for the wedding party and many photographers took advantage of it.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Week of July 8 to July 14

1945

Sunday, July 8, 1945 — Fair

The register showed today among other interesting signatures, the names of Lt. Col. Rebousseau, Lt. J. Dared and Andre P. Moupain, all from Paris, France. "And it won't be long" said a visitor, "before people will be signing from Bombay and the Far East."

Carolyn Jobes, aged twelve, asked today if she could be of any assistance to us—so, while mother and daddy and grandmother went out to see the garden, Carolyn "helped" us at the Bar. She is a very quiet, lovely child and no bother at all and was very reluctant to go home.

Monday, July 9, 1945 — Warm

We had the pleasure this evening of meeting Lt. John S. Rich, Jr., the young officer about whom we wrote a week or so ago. Lt. Rich's parents, unaware of his return so soon, were combining a business and pleasure trip in this neighborhood, making Wayside Inn their headquarters. When the call came from Lt. Rich, who had returned on the Queen Mary, Mr. and Mrs. Rich Sr. dropped everything to get back to Connecticut as soon as possible. Tonight, Mr. Rich has returned to resume his business negotiations.

Tuesday, July 10, 1945 — Cool

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Harthan of Lynn, have come for several day's stay. The Harthan's love Wayside Inn and come here at every opportunity. They spent their honeymoon here five years ago, and have come for every possible anniversary since. This little outing, however, is in the nature of a farewell, for Mr. Harthan will enter the armed forces in a few days.

Wednesday, July 11, 1945 — Warm

The red barn across the road from the Inn, is getting a new "bonnet" although the carpenters say it's just a shingling job. Very becoming, we'd say.

Thursday, July 12, 1945 — Warmer

A very nice and somewhat touching incident came to our attention today. Two ladies, one "his" mother and the "his" wife, came to the bar to order luncheon. They informed us that they were celebrating "his" birthday, and had chosen Wayside Inn as the proper place. Later, they wrote a "company" letter to "him", in which they mentioned the interesting things they had seen and the nice luncheon they had enjoyed. They posted in our mail box the loving and newsy letter to Lt. Hall, who is somewhere in the Southwest Pacific.

Friday, July 13, 1945 Fair

We think Friday consistently, week in and week out, is the most difficult day about which to write. We don't know why this is so but there just never seems to be any news on that day. Friday almost always sees a pick-up in reservations in preparation for Sunday and the weekend, and this Friday is no exception to that rule. Oh, yes, this particular day is Friday, the 13th. As somebody has said, "No news is good news."

Saturday, July 14, 1945 Very Warm

Two people who are working on unusual and worthwhile projects are Mr. and Mrs. Llewllyn Jones of Cambridge, who had luncheon here today. Mr. Jones is working on a translation from the Danish, of the lives of Scandinavian patriots. His book involves considerable research and will have a definite value in post war planning as related to crafts and industries.

Mrs. Jones is a student of the Japanese language, and has collaborated with others in assembling material for a text book for governmental use. Mrs. Jones speaks Japanese fluently, and to hear her describe the old kitchen in Japanese is quite an experience.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of July 15 to 22

1945

Sunday, July 15 — Rain

Quite a few Chinese people visit the Inn and sometimes the women come in their native dress. It is so picturesque and seems to suit them so well. The men always wear American dress thereby losing some of their individuality. Today Mr. S. Hi Han of Shensi, China, came to dinner with a guide from Boston. A man of great personal charm and we could not help but wish that Mr. Han had worn the dress of his own country. He is connected with the Far East Department of the Metropolitan Museum in New York and deals with things thousands of years old. Still, he was very much interested in our "young" antiques, especially the pipe tongs and the tinder box which they still use in China.

Monday, July 16 — Rainy

Dr. Kenneth Warren and Mrs. Warren of Newton were dinner guests tonight. Dr. Warren is at present on the staff at the Leahy clinic in Boston, but was previously for a number of years in a similar capacity at the Ford Hospital in Detroit. Dr. Warren remembered and inquired for one of our former associates, Emma Modjeska, who was a patient for a time at the Ford Hospital.

Tuesday, July 17 — Rain

Twenty seven members of the "Two Center" community camp in Newton, called on us this afternoon. They were girls ranging in age from ten to fourteen years. Two camp counselors who knew the story of Wayside Inn from start to finish, were in charge of this quiet, well behaved group of youngsters.

From Cushing General Hospital at Framingham came six members of the W.A.C. who were our visitors today. The young women were conducted on a tour through the Inn, and were interested enough to ask many questions.

Wednesday, July 18 — Cloudy

Twenty-five of the ladies who live at the Ballou Home for Aged in Woonsocket, R. I. were luncheon guests today. Ranging in age from fifty to ninety-four years, they amused themselves variously, according to their strength and inclination. Some chose to take the tour about the house and grounds, while others were content to sit about and chat. As a tribute to the very oldest member of the group, aged ninety-four years, one of the other ladies said that she was, "smarter, than all the rest put together." The ladies attend Dr. Ellenwoods's church in Pawtucket frequently, and they were much interested to learn that Wayside Inn is the spot where the "Fraters" have their annual retreat in January.

Thursday, July 19 Showers

Mrs. Sarah A. Brink of River Forest, Illinois was a luncheon guest today. The Hessian andirons interested her, and she recalled a favorite expression of her grandmother's, "He's as bad as a Hessian."

Major and Mrs. Anderson of Belmont, entertained at luncheon for ten guests today. Mrs. Anderson is a member of the U. S. Marine Corps. Auxiliary.

Friday, July 20 Thunder Showers

Corn meal is being ground at the old mill again, and today marked the first day of its sale. Mrs. Purdy was the first customer. She purchased a five pound bag of corn meal. Whole wheat is also ready to be sifted for flour.

Dinner was served this evening to a group of Harvard Professors who had for their guests of honor, Col. Stotz and Com. Mundorff, both identified with the officer training course in Electronics and Radar. For a few interesting "group statistics" there were present eighty Harvard professors and Army and Navy officers. Their native states included Georgia, Texas, Wyoming, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Louisiana, Rhode Island and Maine. There were also two from China and one from Sweden. Square dancing was enjoyed after the dinner party.

Saturday, July 21 Showers

George Pearson, poet, and Gray Line Guide came to see us this evening. We talked about old times when he used to come on the busses bringing hundreds of people to see the house and have luncheon almost every day. George now drives a horse through the streets of Boston. He still tells his funny stories and historical anecdotes to smaller, but just as interested, groups of people. We are planning to take the trip ourselves soon to catch up on our Boston lore.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of July 22 to 29, 1945

Sunday, July 22 — Fair and Cool

Joe Hefferman, Wayside Inn Boys School graduate, on a thirty day furlough, came to see us today. He seemed nervous and restless like all the boys who come back and spoke feelingly of "his buddies" who weren't as lucky as he was. Just before entering the service, Joe had started a class in old fashioned dancing at his home in Maine and hopes to bring these boys and girls here to see the Inn sometime.

Monday, July 23 — Pleasant

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Sammartino of East Rutherford, New Jersey were overnight guests recently. All our rooms were taken but they seemed so anxious to stay that we gave them the Parson's room with its canopied bed. Mr. Sammartino is President of a college and wants to bring some of his students to the Inn in the fall. Mrs. Sammartino got some post cards to send home and stopped writing to exclaim, "Why, these cards were printed by some neighbors of ours in East Rutherford, New Jersey."

Tuesday, July 24 — Warm

Perhaps this is as good a time as any to mention the waitresses, old and new. They are a very important part of the household and people remark about each one now and then. Lately, in their new uniforms they have looked exceptionally well. Although some of the "extras" are quite young and inexperienced, they are learning fast under Mrs. Kingman's able direction.

Wednesday, July 25 — Pleasant

Coming across the continent from California for the first time since 1916, Louis Knott Koontz arrived at the Inn on a recent evening quite unexpectedly; unexpectedly for us as well as for himself. Professor of Colonial History at the University of California, Mr. Koontz had, of course, heard about the Wayside Inn. But he had never visited it. Too, Mr. Koontz's wife, Ruth Bell Koontz, is a descendant of the Howes. This evening while riding in a bus, a fellow passenger remarked to Mr. Koontz that the bus was about to pass the Wayside Inn. Mr. Koontz signaled the driver. "Let me out here!" he called. The result was a rare treat for us; entertaining this distinguished guest who has majored in Colonial History all his life and who is an authority on George Washington. Washington items in the Inn were of special interest; the check made out to Joseph Galloway by G. Washington, the Cincinnati Society membership certificate signed by its first President, a military order written at the time of the Revolution, and a very fine portrait of "The Father of this Country."

Thursday, July 26 Pleasant

Another Wayside School boy just back from overseas was a recent visitor renewing old friendships and associations. He was Sherwood Elder of the Navy. Elder flew across country from California, and reported a ship-to-ship greeting with a Wayside school mate, Carmino Longhi. Elder, on the Battleship "Washington" happened to catch the eye of Longhi as their ships passed somewhere in the Pacific.

Friday, July 27 Warm

Rev. William A. Knight of Framingham Center took time out from his editorial writing today to have lunch at the Inn with his wife, daughter and son-in-law. "But, I must hurry home to tell the World what I think of the British election and the defeat of Churchill," he said laughingly as he ate fresh country vegetables and braised beef. When leaving, Mr. Knight playfully licked his chops as he spoke of the beef and said he would remember it for a long time to come. Then he quoted another author who once remarked about a never-to-be-forgotten meal: "Fifty years have gone by faster than the smell of that gravy!"

Saturday, July 28 Fair

A Mrs. Welch of Framingham came to lunch today and told us she was very familiar with the Inn. When Mr. Lemon's brother was ill here, she would drive over every day from Framingham to nurse him. She loved to come and never could get here fast enough; she drove with horse and buggy. When people came to see the house, she would take off her apron and show them around.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of July 29 to August 5

1945

Sunday, July 29 — Pleasant

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Wardrobe arrived today for a week's stay. This couple with the unusual name live in Medford. Mr. Wardrobe keeps a store in Lexington and his wife has one in Somerville. She is recuperating from an illness and came to the Inn for a breath of country air and a rest from business worries.

Monday, July 30 — Fair and Cool

All our rooms are taken tonight; an unusual occurence on a Monday! A family from Philadelphia has taken four rooms. Two ladies from Hartford, Conn., on their way home from visiting an artist's colony at Goose Rocks, Maine, are finding pictures to paint at the Mill, in the garden and the Inn itself. All these, from almost any angle, are appealing. Three men, Messrs. Brown, Fish and Taylor from New York City, arrived quite unexpectedly; but we made room for them and they seemed perfectly satisfied with the Parson's Room and a cot.

Tuesday, July 31 — Pleasant

This morning we woke up to a world blanketed in heavy fog, much to the disappointment of our travelers. During the day, however, it cleared, the sun came out and our guests departed one by one.

A letter from Lt. Allen Durgin, married recently at the Chapel, informs us he is to stay for awhile at Fort Myers, Florida, training gunners and flying an armor plated bomber to be shot at with plastic bullets! He deserves this respite after his many missions flown over Germany where he miraculously escaped the innumerable real bullets that came his way.

Wednesday, August 1 — Partly Cloudy

In Summer "shorts" and sweater, the Reverend Howard M. Lowell, house guest, started off for a morning of books and writing. He chose a pretty spot near the Mill; a restful place in the shade overlooking the Mill pond. One by one the books dropped to the ground and the writing materials lay untouched. Reverend Lowell was fast asleep. Near noon, slight noises disturbed him. He awoke to find himself surrounded by sheep, nibbling on bushes and grass and almost nibbling on him! "Quite an unusual experience," said Mr. Lowell as he laughingly described this unique pastoral scene.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of July 29 to August 5

1945

Thursday, August 2 — Pleasant

A daintily trimmed Birthday cake was placed before a young man who sat on the porch this evening, dining with three friends. The glow of candles lighted up the youth's dark and pale complexion as he exclaimed over the colorful frosting and neatly written words, "Happy Birthday, Bill." Bill was in khaki and the cake was more than just a sentimental gesture in honor of his birthday. It was an expression of appreciation for his courage and endurance; a token of gratitude and thankfulness for Bill's safe return after 20 months in a Prison camp.

Friday, August 3 — Pleasant

Recent Guests

J. Wiley Brewster of Newcastle, Pennsylvania, cousin of one of the descendents of William Holmes McGuffey.

M. G. Prevo makes waffles in an old iron like the one in our kitchen. Prefers them to waffles made in a modern electric "iron."

Mrs. True, now eighty-one, first visited the Inn when sixteen years old.

Saturday, August 4 — Pleasant

It is hardly necessary to explain why the hostesses have to be good listeners, not only part of the time, but all the year 'round! In the Winter, open fires with their warmth and cheer invite intimate conversations. Summertime affords those who work in offices and factories a chance to get away from routine and relax. And, we find these Summer vacationists want to talk; they are usually seeking an attentive ear! Strange as it may seem, most of them want to talk about their every day work back home! Tonight, the problems of the owner of a small dry goods store were discussed and yesterday we learned how to publish a short book!

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 5 to 12

1945

Sunday, August 5 — Clear and Cool

A romance started here at the Inn on Thanksgiving Day 1933. The still sentimental couple of middle age spent the night here recently and told us how the meeting took place in the Barroom. Mr. Chamberlain's "Camera Impressions of the Wayside Inn" in which was written a poem composed by the groom commemorating the occasion. He had even marked with an arrow the picture of the very settle where she sat when they were introduced before going in to dinner. In great glee as they left the next day, they said they had carved their initials on the back of a bench over by the barn.

Monday, August 6 — Rain

Vegetable plates were served today to a family of Seventh Day Adventists. Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Dinsbier, missionaries in China, and their two small children have just returned on the Gripsholm from a Japanese internment camp. The three long years of suffering showed on the faces of all except the baby born in the camp and still too young to realize the horrors they had endured.

Tuesday, August 7 — Pleasant

Look around the Inn on a Summer day such as this and here you will see a nice little family from Michigan; a daughter of High School age with Mother and Dad. Over in the Parlor another family of larger size, four tiny tots, hand in hand with their elders. And basking in the sun on the front porch is a dear old lady, Grandmother so and so from way out West. Yes, these are the Summer days when sightseers hold sway at the Inn and enjoy it—far more, perhaps, than native New Englanders who are inclined to take their historic buildings for granted. Sightseers have not been very numerous during the past three summers, but this year with the European War over and with V-J day just around the corner, quite a few more have ventured forth on vacation trips. Today was almost a typical pre-war Summer day with a camp group of about 25 youngsters arriving for an early morning visit.

Wednesday, August 8 — Pleasant

A young man, who appeared to be in his twenties and who wore the army insignia of a Colonel, was a dinner guest this evening. Seldom, if ever, have we seen so young a person in such a high ranking position and couldn't help remarking about it. But the Colonel wouldn't talk. He was in Normandy on V-E day and then added briefly: "When you are out where things happen, you are apt to come up pretty fast."

Wednesday, August 8 continued

Another young man in high position, this time of the church, was a recent guest. He was Rev. William Graham, Executive Secretary of Youth for Christ, International on his way to England, France, Germany and the Scandinavian countries.

Thursday, August 9 — Very Pleasant

Our old salt dish in the Kitchen doesn't receive much attention. Most visitors don't know that the plain little wooden bowl held salt and that its position on the family table two centuries ago was an important one. Tradition has it that people were seated at the family table either above or below the "salt," according to their particular standing in the family circle. Guests always sat above the "salt." Naughty boys and servants sat below the "salt." He said that the single salt dish was used in King Arthur's time. Hence the "round table." King Arthur's knights were all of the same rank. How could they be seated above or below the salt?

Friday, August 10 — Very Pleasant

Bringing a bit more excitement to an already exciting day was a distinguished Luncheon guest, Mr. C. Bianchi, Portuguese Ambassador to the United States. During luncheon, Mr. Bianchi—or should we say His Excellency, Mr. Bianchi—talked by phone with his Embassy staff in Washington confirming the report that Japan had accepted the Potsdam Ultimatum. And the burning question uppermost in the minds of all who came to the Inn today was finally asked by the Ambassador himself as he wrote his name and the date in our special Guest Register—

August 10, 1945
V. J. Day?

Saturday, August 11 — Fair and Warm

V-J Day has not arrived yet but the air is full of expectancy. People are noticeably happier and we know the end is not far off. Robert Johnson, just returned from two years in Iceland and one year in Europe, seemed especially elated and glad to be home. He just stood and gazed around the Barroom and finally burst out, "Gee, this is wonderful!" Robert, a graduate of the Boys' School, has been discharged from the Army and is looking for a job. He is one of the six boys who enlisted before Pearl Harbor and is anxious to settle down to a normal existence.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 12 to 19,1945

Sunday, August 12 — Very hot

Five ministers were most appreciative guests of the Inn today. They were full of enthusiasm and could hardly believe in the hospitality extended to them. One was Rev. Haskins of North Attleboro, a Universalist, and therefore well acquainted with most of the Fraters. The Institute of Pastoral Care, where these ministers have been studying hard for six weeks, has just been brought to a close at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Monday, August 13 — Still warm

An overnight guest, Mrs. Dannenhower, before leaving this morning, stopped a moment to talk about the town where she lives—Haddonfield, New Jersey. It was settled in 1713 and part of the house is still standing in which Elizabeth Haddon lived. Mrs. Dannenhower's daughter was called upon to show the picture which she carried of herself and a young sailor, Bob Rhodes. This young man is the eighth descendant of Ebenezer Hopkins, the nephew whom Elizabeth adopted. Perhaps, like Elizabeth Haddon and John Estaugh, this modern girl and boy may find happiness together, as, quoting from Longfellow's Elizabeth

"World wide apart, and yet akin;
As showing that the human heart
Beats on forever as of old."

Tuesday, August 14 — Very pleasant

Suspense filled every nook and corner of this old Inn today as guests and Inn family awaited news of the Japanese surrender. Would the official word come--and when? Could we really believe that at long last the War had come to an end? These questions were in the minds of all; both guests and employees. It seems as if the long awaited official word would never come, until—. It was a few minutes after seven o'clock in the evening when the telephone tinkled and brought the good news. Yes, the War was over! Hostesses ran to the Pantry to tell waitresses while waitresses ran to the Kitchen to tell cooks. Guests clapped their hands and talked excitedly. The old Inn itself turned over a page in it's own History book.

Wednesday, August 15 — Showers--Clearing

Little Christopher Lin may be classed as our very youngest visitor. He is only 13 weeks old and was wheeled to the dining room in a basket where he drew all eyes with his cunning ways and

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 12 to 19, 1945

Wednesday, August 15 - continued

enchanting smile One would know without seeing the mother in her graceful native dress that the little baby's parents were Chinese - he looked so like a doll. With Mr. and Mrs. Lin were Mr. and Mrs. Shew and later in the day two men in resplendant uniforms came and one wrote in the register, Mids. Tung Sheng Wei, Chinese Navy at M. I. T. These foreign sounding names will probably become very familiar to us before long. Even now it gives us somewhat of a shock to hear a Chinese baby called Christopher.

Thursday, August 16 Very pleasant

A guest who found the Inn atmosphere conducive to rest and relaxation was Mrs. Walter Vincent, wife of a prominent New York business man. The Vincents stopped over last night on their way from Maine to New York. "The Madame was so tired she thought she couldn't make the trip," confessed Mr. Vincent. Then he added that reading a portion of the "Tales of a Wayside Inn" to the Madame had finally lulled her to sleep. "I only got to the middle of 'Paul Revere's Ride,'" he said. Mr. Vincent is Chairman of the Board of Wilmer and Vincent, the firm which makes Republic Motion pictures, and also Chairman of the Board of the Consolidated Film Industries. He is President of the Actors' Fund of America, which supports the Will Rogers Hospital at Saranac Lake.

Friday, August 17 Very pleasant

A tribute to the restful atmosphere which surrounds the Inn was paid to us recently by another overnight guest. She, upon leaving, made a special effort to find the hostess, who, at that particular time, was arranging flowers. The guest was a middle aged maiden-lady and this is what she said: "For one who has been as harrassed as I have, unjustly, for the past few months, this place has been just wonderful. Last night I slept through without having to take everything under the Sun to do so."

Saturday, August 18 Very pleasant

Today ends an historic week; a week which has brought great joy. This has been expressed by our guests, not only verbally, but by facial expressions which have changed noticeably. Instead of a tense, serious aspect, the guests have, this week, displayed a jubilant attitude. They are gayer, brighter, eager. On being shown through the house, they laugh and exchange pleasantries. They are interested and enthusiastic; their minds are not pre-occupied any more. Gayety has been the keynote ever since Tuesday night at seven

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 12 to 19

1945

o'clock. And with the ban lifted on the use of gasoline, guests have been more numerous. These days have seemed like holidays. But should it be a week of rejoicing entirely? Let us pause here, on this Saturday night, to say a prayer for those who gave their all that we might have this happy, joyous time.

WAYSIDE INN

DAIRY

Week of August 19 - 25, 1945

Sunday, August 19, 1945 Fair

This evening a group of about 20 Girl Scout leaders had dinner. Many favors and gifts were exchanged and the group seemed to be in a very jolly mood. As one of them explained, "We have been eating with the children at camp all summer and appreciate a table by ourselves where it is quiet!"

A group of Boy Scouts from Lincoln came recently to enjoy the hospitality of the Inn. They seemed rather forlorn at first. Due to war restrictions, no fires could be built in the woods nor could they eat at the Camp on Nobscot Mountain, so they had to be content with cold lunches brought from home. After going through the Inn, however, they cheered up and finally left in the best of spirits.

Monday, August 20, 1945 Very hot

Many kinds of animals come to the Inn both tame and wild. Dogs and cats, whose owners have to be told as gently as possible that they must leave their pets outside; a parrot named "Gray" of whom we are very fond - and goodness knows how many pet frogs and gold fish and white mice have been brought in surreptitiously. Then there are the bats and swallows that have been known to come down the chimneys involuntarily. The other day, a pigeon fluttered out onto the Bar Room floor much to the amazement of the hostess sitting there. Another hostess, quietly talking to a group in the Parlor about Longfellow traditions, was startled to see this pigeon fly in and calmly perch on a picture of Longfellow. The guests watched with interest while Mr. Davieau caught him quickly and expertly, and then we noticed his leg was banded. Outdoors again, he flew away to continue his journey, thankful to be free and perhaps wondering a little about his adventure at the Wayside Inn.

Tuesday, August 21, 1945 Hot

Visitors of foreign birth often find here things of interest which they remember using in their native lands. For instance, a Russian remarked today about the pewter coffee urns in the old dining room. They reminded him of the Russian samovars which, he said, were used mostly for tea and not coffee. He also spoke of the open fireplace cooking done in Russian peasant homes and of the brick ovens where Russian families gather at night to keep warm. They huddle together and lean against the oven wall.

WAYSIDE INN

DAIRY

Week of August 19 - 25, 1945

Wednesday, August 22, 1945 — Still hot

Mrs. Bennett teacher in the Southwest School, has been helping on the hostess staff this Summer, coming in the late afternoon to work through the evening. Now she is having a short vacation before school opens. And speaking of Wayside Inn schools and the Mary Lamb school in particular, here is a recent item clipped from a local newspaper: "As the time draws near, we hope sincerely that Mary's Little Lamb will not follow her to school this season. We'd hate to think that some otherwise law-abiding citizen might be tempted beyond his strength!"

Thursday, August 23, 1945 — Cooler

Mrs. Gardiner Fiske of Boston and Weston, Mass., who spent several weeks here during the Summer of 1943, has presented to the Inn several very interesting mementoes of Ole Bull. She occupied the Ole Bull room. Among the souveniers are a number of fine pictures; one in a large plush frame of Ole Bull as an older man, another of his grave and a harbor scene at Bergen upon arrival of the funeral cortege. Also there is a list of subscribers to an Ole Bull memorial fund. This includes Longfellow's signature. Mrs. Fiske found these interesting souveniers in the home of Harvard's Professor Eben N. Horsford, Mr. Fiske's grandfather.

Friday, August 24, 1945 — Rain

There are many nice things said about the Inn, many compliments paid, many words of appreciation. All of these we wish Mr. and Mrs. Ford could hear personally. Such expressions as "It is wonderful" and "Ive had a delightful time" are common. Uncommon was the phrase coined by a guest today. It is a compliment well worth remembering and came from a distinguished gentleman, Judge F. E. Johnson of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn, New York. In speaking of Mr. Ford and what he has done here, the Judge said; "This old Inn is a tremendous contribution to the memory of American life."

Saturday, August 25, 1945 — Rain

The week closes with a list of distinguished visitors; distinguished because of their work in various fields of endeavor, but more particularly in the War effort. All have partaken of the Inn's hospitality within the last few days.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Seek of August 19 - 25, 1945

Saturday, August 25, 1945(continued)

Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, President of the Federal Council of Churches of America.

Major General Lewis B. Hershey, Director of Selective Service, Washington.

Alexander Lovercdos, Greek Ministry of Finance, Athens, Greece.

Under the title "Who's New Today," the New York Sun in a recent issue features Bishop Oxnam. He is a former President of De Pauw University and nine years ago was elected Bishop of Omaha. After that he served in Boston. Now, besides being President of the Federal Council of Churches, he is Methodist Bishop of New York.

Major General Hershey needs no introduction. His name has been a familiar one during the War years and will be perpetuated in World War II history.

Alexander Lovercdos is a representative of the Greek Ministry of Finance and makes his headquarters in New York. He is working for the betterment of economic conditions in Greece and is attached to the Greek embassy in Washington.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 26 to September 1

Sunday, August 26 — Pleasant

Along all highways leading to the Wyaside Inn today a very different picture presented itself. Instead of a few slowly moving vehicles, there were long lines of cars filled with the smiling faces of mother, dad and the kids. Horns tooted and the whizzing sound of car passing car was heard again. Every other farmer had a heavily laden stand by the roadside. "Judy's Lunch" was open. Dolls and knick-knacks suddenly appeared in colorful array. The Wayside Inn parking space was a black patch on the landscape as car after car drove in. Mother, dad and the kids flocked to the Inn itself, to the Chapel, school house and Mill—places they had been waiting patiently to see for four long years.

Monday, August 27 — Partly cloudy

Last night, David Bently and Albert Eaton, Sudbury boys and graduates of the Southwest School, came to the Inn escorting two young ladies from Medford, Mass. David was in uniform and walked with a cane having been wounded in service in Southern France. He kept repeating, "This is really wonderful!" Miss Mary Bradford, one of the young ladies, is a direct descendant of Gov. Bradford and christened a Liberty Ship named for her ancester a few years ago. Seeing the bill in pounds and pence in the Bar room made out to William Bradford brought out this interesting bit of information.

Tuesday, August 28 — Pleasant

Up in Portsmouth, New Hampshire is a tumbled-down, battered looking old Tavern which in no way resembles the Wayside Inn. Yet there is a feeling of kinship between the two. Both were immortalized by America's beloved poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

The narrow streets leading to the water front in Portsmouth are lined with quaint old houses, many of them built by ship's carpenters and of excellent proportion, some with very fine interior woodwork, fine panelling and carving. Now however, they appear unkempt and dilapidated; not a few having been converted into tenements. And it is not easy walking through those narrow streets paved with broken and uneven brick. A hot August sun beat down upon us too, as we strolled towards the Earl of Halifax Tavern today. Here Lafayette stopped and George Washington. Louis Phillippe, later King of France, was another distinguished guest. And in the old days, swinging from the sign, the Earl of Halifax in portrait, looked down from his lofty perch and beheld the beautiful Martha Hilton. Longfellow describes this in "Lady Wentworth."

Tuesday, August 28, continued

"The Earl of Halifax beheld the sight,
Not so Dame Stavers, for he heard her say
These words, or thought he did, as plain as day:
'O martha Hilton! Fie! how dare you go
About the town half dressed, and looking so!'
At which the gypsy laughed, and straight replied:
'No matter how I look; I yet shall ride
In my own chariot, ma'am.' And on the child
The Earl of Halifax benignly smiled."

Martha Hilton did ride in her own chariot. She married New Hampshire's Governor Wentworth and became Lady Wentworth. Hence Longfellow's famous story as told by the Poet in the Tales of a Wayside Inn.

The Earl of Halifax no longer shows his face upon the old Tavern sign and the beautiful Martha Hilton no longer goes about Portsmouth town. Nevertheless, both servant girl and Tavern, like the old "Red Horse" at Sudbury, will live on forever in Longfellow's book.

Wednesday, August 29 Fair

A dinner was given tonight by a group of nurses from the Veteran's Hospital in West Roxbury for two of their group who were leaving after many years of service. The patients, veterans of both World Wars, sent a telegram of congratulation to these two faithful nurses. After being shown through the house, the group in the Parlor gathered around the piano and sang. The meeting broke up to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne" and "Good Night Ladies."

Thursday, August 30 Warm

Miss Gertrude Samuels came to see the house recently to collect data for one or more articles to be published in her paper, The New York Times. Our Mary Lamb School especially appealed to her. She had taken the sight-seeing trips in Boston with George Pearson of the Gray Line and wanted to write him up but was doubtful of being able to "put him over" to her boss. She said, "To really appreciate George, one should take the trip around Boston with him in his wagon and hear him recite his own poems to his two horses, Babe and Dixie." Miss Samuels real purpose in coming to Boston was to write about unemployment, but she was looking for material for Vignettes. We are hoping soon to read about our school, the Inn and George Pearson in her paper.

Friday, August 31 Partly cloudy

Many small children seem to enjoy spending the night here. They find sleeping on a cot a most thrilling experience--especially when it is a little room to themselves under the eaves. One little girl sugg sted recently, "Let's go up the magic steps, Daddy," meaning the little narrow stairway in the Barroom. This was little Nancy Leavens, a very imaginative child who came to the Bar with her adoring Daddy and said she wanted an egg for breakfast, only she called it " A Humpty Dumpty."

Saturday, September 1 Very warm

After a simple wedding ceremony in the Martha Mary Chapel this afternoon, the bride and groom, Mr. and Mrs. Thorwald Culwell received about forty friends and relatives in the small Ballroom of the Inn. The couple stood against a background of pink and white gladioli near the fireplace and, as the day turned slowly into evening, candles were lit on the long center table. A Buffet supper was served as guests sat around the room chatting and eating; chicken salad, ice cream and, of course, the Bride's cake. The latter was heavily frosted with a pink and white icing and was of almond flavor, (we discovered later!) As the very last crumb was being eaten, the bride and groom were boarding a plane for their honeymoon trip.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, September 2, 1945. Warm

The Diary-ist overlooked an item which should have appeared two Sundays ago. This was the fact that among guests registered on that day, August 19th, were Lieutenant and Mrs. Jack P. Hellum of the Berry School at Rome, Georgia. They where guests of Dr. and Mrs Charles M. Proctor of Southboro, Mass who are frequent Inn guests and who often mention the Berry School and what Mr. Ford has done there. Lieutenant and Mrs. Hellum asked to be remembered to Mr. and Mrs. Ford.

Guests registered today from the following states:

Missouri	Oklahoma
Pennsylvania	Connecticut
Florida	Vermont
Ohio	New Jersey
Rhode Island	Maryland
Oregon	Kentucky
New York	Indiana

Massachusetts

Monday, September 3, 1945 Cooler

LABOR DAY

Our old friend Phil Merriman of Tauck Tours appeared today with four boys from the Royal Air Force. In snappy grey uniforms, they attracted much attention as they moved around through the holiday crowds; particularly one boy of dark complexion from Ceylon. The other three will return soon, they hope, to their respective homes in England, Brazil and Madeira. They were enroute from New York to Canada.

Tuesday, September 4, 1945. Pleasant

Orin Dadman's grandson dropped in for lunch today. He is Mr. Charles Knowlton who remembers very well the part his grandfather played in Wayside Inn history. After the death of Lyman Howe in 1860, Orin Dadman lived at the Inn with his family; not running the house as an Inn, but using it as a private home. Orin had three children, Hervey, Lafayette (who was born in the Lafayette room) and Flora. Mr. Knowlton is Flora's son.

Wednesday, September 5, 1945 Warm

And now that the War is over, Fare well parties are being held for those War workers who have spent the past three years together, working side by side in factories, ship building yards and machine shops. Such a party was held here tonight by fifty girls, some of whom have just been released from the Wyman-Gordon Company in Worcester. Dinner was served in the large dining room with a head table for eight arranged near the fireplace.

Thursday, September 6, 1945 Very warm

A surprise visit was paid the Inn tonight by Mr. Campbell, Mr. Dallinger, and Mr. Hamilton of Dearborn who arrived at the Boston Airport this afternoon. They arrived about dinner time in the Bar-room beaming with smiles and looking quite brown from the Summer sun. After dinner a walk was taken to the Chapel, school, coaches etc. They will return to Dearborn tomorrow.

Friday, September 7, 1945 Very warm

A letter came today from Dr. Harold Bowditch of Brookline, Mass. filled with interesting information about the Howe coat-of-arms which hangs in the Parlor and which Longfellow mentions in the Tales of a Wayside Inn. Dr. Bowditch is convinced that the painting was done by Christian Remick, who was born in Eastham, Massachusetts in 1726. In 1769 Remick advertised as an artist, including coats of arms, in the Massachusetts Gazette. He was pilot and lieutenant on the Brigantine Tyrranicide of the Massachusetts State Navy, and was prize master and lieutenant under Captain John Manley on the Continental Frigate "La Ragué" In 1777 he was captured and set ashore in Maine. Much of his life was spent at sea; later he lived in Boston. The place and date of his death are not known.

Saturday, September 8, 1945 Warm

A very pretty bride stood with her groom in the old Ball room this morning and received friends and relatives who had come to congratulate them upon their marriage. This occurred earlier in the day in Marlboro. A Wedding Breakfast followed the reception and the happy couple left amid a shower of rice and confetti. The bride was Miss Kathryn McNichol of Marlboro and the groom was an Army sergeant.

Mr. William Sumner Appleton, Secretary of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities was a dinner guest this evening.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Sunday, September 9, 1945 — Pleasant

A promising young author is Sergeant Julius Fast who is again spending the week-end here. He is a modest sort of person, still in his twenties we should say, and not inclined to talk of his achievements. They have been of importance, however, as we finally learned when the Sergeant passed a pre-publication copy of his book across the old Bar. "It will go on sale the 6th of October" the author said. The title is "Watchful At Night", a mystery story. Sergeant Fast has previously written short mystery stories; many of which have appeared in popular magazines. Some parts of the new book were written here. The author has spent other week-ends in the "Wales" room having been stationed at Camp Myles Standish for several months.

Monday, September 10, 1945 — Pleasant

Men in uniform with all kinds of service stripes and overseas decorations are seen around the house these days. One of them hovered near the fireplace on a chilly, damp evening recently and talked enthusiastically to his lady friend: "Boy, I've seen plenty of fireplaces like these where I've been. You could crawl right inside some of the ones in England and Ireland". Another boy, when paying his dinner check burst forth with this remark: "Gee, it's great to eat a meal where there's no noise!"

Tuesday, September 11, 1945 — Partly cloudy

About 20 men were shown through the Inn today taking time out between their business meetings. Their host was the Paul Revere Insurance Company of Worcester and the men are from all parts of the country. Next week and the week after that, two more groups are to be entertained the same way.

Wednesday, September 12, 1945 — Pleasant

One of the last pupils to attend the Mary Lamb School when it was located at Sterling, visited the Inn today. He was Mr. William O'Brien of Providence, Rhode Island who remembers the time (1898) when the children were told that the school building would no longer be used as a school. Transportation was then provided to another school house in a different part of the town. Mr. O'Brien walked down to the present Mary Lamb School and remarked that it looks about the same as it did in its original location only in the old days it was painted white.

Thursday, September 13, 1945 Pleasant

"The turnings on that chair are very unusual" and "The chest upstairs is an especially fine piece". These were the comments made by a tall, distinguished-looking young lady as she and her husband wandered through the house this evening. Her enthusiasm for and knowledge of early pine and maple furniture aroused our interest and the discovery was made that this modest guest, Mrs. Stephen Keiley, is the daughter of the late Dr. Lyons of Buffalo, New York one of America's leading authorities on Pilgram furniture. Dr. Lyons passed away about a year ago and unfortunately left comparatively few notes on his vast research work. He came to the Inn once and identified a Dennis chest. No wonder then, that Mrs. Keiley showed a genuine love and appreciation of the old, altho' she confessed that her father was somewhat lax about passing on to his children his own valuable information. "He had the old fashioned idea that girls were not supposed to acquire any great amount of knowledge", she said.

Friday, September 14, 1945 Cool

Today the Dancing classes started. In the afternoon the children reviewed the Waltz and Life on the Ocean Wave. In the evening the new boys were thoroughly drilled in the rudiments of the waltz. The second class went through the dances which were most familiar to them. They had a good time and sang the going-out march lustily - but something was missing. It was the girls!

Dame May Whitty, now playing in Boston with Eva LeGallienne and Victor Jory, was a most interested spectator at the children's classes this afternoon. She had luncheon with a group of friends on the porch where her rich, melodious voice could be heard now and then in conversation.

Saturday, September 15, 1945 Warm, pleasant

Mr. Nelson E. Miller of the Ford Motor Company, Somerville Plant, was married today to Miss Lois Schubert at the Martha-Mary Chapel. White gladioli added to the beauty of the Chapel and our own white cosmos and other garden flowers dressed up the old Ball-Room where a buffet tea was served. Most of our weddings in these hurried times are simple and informal and today the minister helped by lighting the fourteen white candles at the Altar just before the ceremony.

WAYSIDE INN

Week of September 16 - 22, 1945

DIARY

Sunday, September 16, 1945 — Pleasant

Meet Captain John Timmer, our ultra modern guest of the day who yesterday was in Newfoundland, here today and tomorrow will probably be in Newfoundland again. That's how fast a modern Army carries its men from place to place. A proud father introduced us to his tall, khaki-clad son after a family dinner party in the old dining room. Next a pretty young wife came along and then an adoring mother. We should like to have introduced the Captain to our Revolutionary landlord, Ezekiel Howe, who on the 19th of April in '75 ran on foot from Sudbury to Concord; twelve miles in two hours time!

Monday, September 17, 1945 — Cold

Last night the thermometer registered 40 degrees and a most welcome fire burned on the hearth in the Barroom to greet the house-guests as they came down for breakfast this morning. Two of these guests were Mr. and Mrs. Ross from Dearborn Inn, enjoying a vacation trip in New England. They seemed delighted with this Inn and a tour over the estate and were anticipating a sight-seeing trip around Boston.

Sewing classes started today. The children from the Redstone and Southwest Schools went up to the second floor of the Inn where Mrs. Sawyer was waiting for them. They all looked very eager to start and some carried boxes gayly wrapped in shining new oil cloth.

Tuesday, September 18, 1945 — Pleasant

McGuffey's Fourth Reader furnished a house guest with an interesting bit of information this evening. It seems that the guest had heard a radio quiz program on which the question was asked. "What animal is the Camelopard"? Those present in the radio studio were stumped as well as our listening house guest. She searched several encyclopedias and asked several friends, but not until looking over McGuffey's Reader did she find the answer. There on page 188, Lesson LX was a picture of a Camelopard or in other words a Giraffe!

Wednesday, September 19, 1945 — Cool and Fair

Miss Nielson, a teacher at the Perkin's Institute for the Blind, had dinner here this evening with a group of friends. She is a frequent visitor and likes to come here for relaxation from her rather trying duties. Tonight there were two or three other teachers with her and also the parents of a little blind girl who had come from West Virginia to leave their child at the Institute.

WAYSIDE INN

Week of September 16 - 22, 1945

DIARY

Wednesday, September 19, 1945 Continued

For their enjoyment and perhaps to take their minds off of the recent parting, Miss Nielson gathered her guests into the Parlor and pretty soon her voice could be heard "One autumn night in Sudbury town---"

Thursday, September 20, 1945

Perhaps the reason for so many compliments being passed around lately on the excellent food served, is due to the fact that a graduate of the Boys' School is back in the kitchen again. Freddie Santosuosso joined the Navy and worked his way through Boot camp. Finding a personal delight in good food and having had some past experience in the school and Inn kitchens, he decided to become a cook. He helped keep up the good reputation of Navy food until a week or so ago when he was given a 30 day furlough. Instead of spending his vacation at amusement centers, Freddie chose to be once more at his old stand in the Inn kitchen carving meat and making himself generally useful. When the 30 days are up he will return to Camp Endicott.

Friday, September 21, 1945 Warm

On one of our most interesting pictures of Ole Bull as a young man there is inscribed in his own handwriting, "To Henry T. Oakes with sincere friendship". A guest, while rooming through the Parlor, was much interested because she said she had in her possession a wine cooler which had at one time belonged to the late Alma Gluck, the well known opera singer and upon it was written the very same name, Henry T. Oakes!

Saturday, September 22, 1945 Pleasant

RECENT REMARKS

Small boy after hearing a hostess describe the laborious task of lighting a fire two hundred years ago: "Gee I like this time of the world better!"

A California guest returning to New England and his encestral home in Vermont visited the Inn recently and expressed his appreciation of what he had seen in this way: "This (meaning the Inn) has given me the greatest pleasure I've had in twenty-five years."

Hostess describing the Coolidge Sap Bucket went into a great deal of detail regarding its use and the signatures written thereon. After expounding on the merits of the bucket for several minutes a Wellesley College girl piped up "Yes, and it's only a Sap bucket!"

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 23 - 29, 1945

Sunday, September 23, 1945 — Cold

Today was still cold but the sun shone and the beautiful weather brought many sightseers. Between 2 and 3 hundred moved slowly through the rooms all day gazing at the antiques. Over 400 meals were served. For the first time, fires were lighted in the fire places. Their cheery glow shed a most welcome warmth throughout the house.

Monday, September 24, 1945 — Still cold

Mrs. Zimmerman, 19 years ago, put her little baby to sleep in our cradle and today came to show another daughter where her sister had slept. It was hard for Mrs. Zimmerman to realize her baby was growing up and about to enter college.

Tuesday, September 25, 1945 — Warmer

For years the Tap-room shelves have supported six old olive green bottles marked "John Kingman, 1760". The name and date appear on a raised circle of glass. This is a most unusual mark, declared Mr. Fay a dinner guest this evening. He added that any old bottle is fairly easy to find, but a bottle marked with name or date is a great rarity. "Yours have both name and date and you have six of them exactly alike!" he exclaimed. Mr. Fay is a Framingham Center neighbor who has travelled all over the world. His collection of marked glass bottles is a rarity too; probably the only collection of its kind in existence.

Wednesday, September 26, 1945 — Warm

A very gay group of Waves had dinner here this evening. Twenty-five sat down to a table lighted by candles and decorated by our colorful zinnias and a favor at each place. The one man, a sailor, seemed to have the best time of all. Many songs were sung, in parts. It seemed to be a choral group. Their favorite was "Anchors Aweigh" which they sang over and over again; making the rafters ring. It was a rare treat to hear them.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 23 - 29, 1945

Thursday, September 27, 1945 Warm

Pre-War activity prevailed today as several hundred boys and girls stepped out of sight-seeing busses into the door yard of the Wayside Inn. Then through the door into the Bar-room, Kitchen, Parlor and upstairs bedrooms they walked, led by one of the hostesses. It was like "old times" to entertain once again large school groups which through the War years have been unable to travel because of limited bus service. Now they are on the highways again and many history and literature classes will very likely be on their way soon to Longfellow's Wayside Inn.

Friday, September 28, 1945 Warm

An historical event in the town of Sudbury was recalled recently when a Mr. and Mrs. Homer celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary here. They were married in the Sudbury church; the first wedding held there since the very early days. In the beginning a Civil ceremony was held in the church yard after which the women of the parish served a wedding supper. Eighteen years ago the first religious ceremony was held; Mr. and Mrs. Homer being the bride and groom. And as in the old days, the women served a wedding supper; Saturday night beans and brown bread. Mrs. Homer chuckled as she recalled the remark made by Mr. Homer when she asked him if he would like brown bread - "Yes", he said, "if it has raisins in it!"

Saturday, September 29, 1945 Still very warm

It has been a long time since Mr. and Mrs. Bowker have been mentioned in the Diary. But now it is Saturday night again and they are here for their Saturday night dinner and bringing with them a large basket filled with lovely roses from their garden. "Dainty Bess" are popular and the tiny "Tom Thumbs" attract a lot of attention. Many of the yellows and deep reds look like pictures. After dinner Mrs. Bowker chats with the hostess while Mr. Bowker reads the evening paper. Around 9:30 they say "Good-night" and are again on their way back to Worcester.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 30 - October 6

1945

Sunday, September 30, 1945 — Pleasant

Miss Riggs, houseguest, armed with field glasses and stout boots returned from an early morning bird walk and reported seeing or hearing the following feathered friends:

Water Birds
- 50 Blue Winged Teal
- 5 Black Ducks
- 1 Great Blue Heron
- 6 Night Herons
- 1 Little Green Heron

- Myrtle Warblers
- Black-Poll Warblers
- Song Sparrows
- Chipping Sparrows
- Downy Woodpeckers
- Crows
- Blue Jays
- Towhees
- Cedar Waxwings
- Nuthatches
- Goldfinches
- Bluebirds
- Starlings

Monday, October 1, 1945 — Rain

Furnace fires were lighted for the first time to take away the chill and dampness of this rainy October day. Due to the warmth of the last few days in this vicinity many plants such as lilacs, violets, pansies and even apple trees have had a second blooming. We read about this in the papers and were pleased to be able to contribute our bit today—a branch of forsythia in full bloom. The lovely yellow blossoms have pushed themselves out from among the green leaves, a combination which we never see in the early spring.

Tuesday, October 2, 1945 — Cloudy

Frequent guests for many years are the Sharafs, father, mother daughter Gloria and a young son. We have become quite well acquainted and have been especially interested in Gloria's rise to fame in the musical world. She is an accomplished pianist and at three years of age was ready for her debut but postponed it to give her services to the Armed Forces. Almost every night she played in some Army camp or aboard some vessel in port. Her mother thinks she has done the most good, however, in hospital wards and that many a mental case has been cured by her playing and her music is of the best, too, mostly from the classics. Now the War is over she is planning her debut in New York in November.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 30 - October 6

1945

Wednesday, October 3, 1945 Windy

Recent Remarks

"The Longfellow Parlor has beauty, dignity, warmth, hospitality, charm."

"Cooks in the old days would be as much at sea in our modern kitchens as we would be in theirs."

"Did you know that the Square Dance called "Pop Goes the Weazle" came from hearing the clock reel snap at every forty revolutions?"

Thursday, October 4, 1945 Pleasant

A frequent guest these days is Lieut. Colonel Follansbee, Chaplain-in-charge at Fort Devens, Mass. Colonel Follansbee introduced a fellow Chaplain this evening, one who has just returned after two years spent in the front lines in Germany. He has visited England and told of some of his experiences there. Speaking of our old Bar and comparing it to those in the English pubs, the Chaplain imitated the English bartenders who at 10 o'clock shout to their clients: "Time, please, gentlemen!" This means closing time.

Friday, October 5, 1945 Pleasant

Beautiful bubbles, large and small, of gorgeous rainbow colors floated into the air of the Old Bar room this afternoon as a houseguest demonstrated a very modern soap bubble set. Instead of the proverbial clay pipe and bowl of soap suds, this was a mouth-blowing device packed in a small box, without soap or liquid and marked $.39 at Woolworths! The set is called "Rainbow bubbles" and according to another guest who witnessed the demonstration, the chemical used was discovered by a scientist of the Eastman Kodak Company in the Distillation Chemistry Laboratories at Rochester, New York.

Saturday, October 6, 1945 Rain

The daughter of Prof. Chaffee of the Harvard Law School was married today in Cambridge to Mr. Pardon Tillinghast, U. S. Navy, and the couple came out to the Inn to spend the night. During the evening quaint music was heard from the parlor and upon investigating, Mr. Tillinghast was seen seated at the old piano. Later he explained that the music he was playing had been composed for Queen Elizabeth by Byrd. These pieces were originally written for the spinet and one of them was called "The White Cliffs of Dover" which sounded very familiar to our modern ears!

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Week of October 7 - 13, 1945

Sunday, October 7, 1945 Pleasant

Reflections of a Sunday Guest

On the broad sweeping green hill across the way, the Martha-Mary Chapel gleams stark white against the morning sky. With its beauty of traditional architecture it seems a remote sanctuary for quiet thinking and prayer. Inside, the sun from the many paned windows gives a bright reflection on the deep red carpets and shining oak pews.

Down the hill a short distance from the Chapel one can see the Mary Lamb School House. The tiny red building is quiet this morning. There are no little pigtailed girls or sturdy little boys in knickers running around the yard until tomorrow morning when they will be summoned by the clanging school bell. It is fun to see the lambs grazing in the nearby meadow and visualize one of them accompanying the small Mary of the olden nursery rhyme up to the little red school, much to the consternation of her teacher many years ago. One cannot help but envy those twenty little children that attend that school now. In that atmosphere of beauty and tradition, the fundamentals of education must take on an even deeper meaning and what fun it must be to tell ones less fortunate small friends that they go to the same school Mary and the Little Lamb attended.

Returning down the street I see the old Inn with its air of old world charm and hospitality. This walk has been more than a historic tour or a stroll to enjoy the natural beauty of the countryside in the Fall. It has shown us a way of life, a more leisurely, contented way of living - work, worship and a study- a general feeling of peace and well being, a feeling of the importance of the individual. I only wish everyone had an opportunity to take a walk by the Wayside. Spiritually, you take away so much more than you bring.

Monday, October 8, 1945 Pleasant

Miss Joan Webster will join the Hostess staff next week. She is a graduate of Abbott Academy and has had experience in office work and in meeting the public. Confidentially she is interested in writing and is the author of the above essay.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Week of October 7 - 13, 1945

Tuesday, October 9, 1945 — Partly cloudy

Overnight guest, Mr. Max Plowman flourished a Revolutionary musket before our eyes this morning; one which he had found in a neighboring antique shop. It is similar to the one hanging over the mantle and is also equipped with a bayonet. Mr Plowman expects to carry it home to New Jersey as a decorative piece over his own fireplace. The Plowmans are pre-War guests who have returned after an absence of three years for a motor trip through New England.

Wednesday, October 10, 1945 — Pleasant

Our correspondence is heavy these days; mostly inquiries from people who are once again able to travel by motor. They ask if we are open, seving meals and taking overnight guests. Many add a friendly, pleasant word about the Inn such as: "Many years ago I spent a night at your charming Inn and have always wanted to return". From New Jersey, a doctor writes to ask about week-end accommodations and adds: "We have been at the Inn before, just for Luncheon and the afternoon. We want you to know we thought it delightful." Another letter which gives the hostesses a "pat on the back" ends with this paragraph: "The few days at Wayside Inn have remained very happily in my thought and I recall the kindness and thoughtfulness of the hostesses. They were so helpful without over-doing it."

Thursday, October 11, 1945 — Pleasant

The Wayside Inn-ers were very much pleased today to welcome back into the fold, Agnes and Lena, who have been gone since last Spring. With the exception of this five month interim Agnes has been here as Head-waitress, 23 years. Lena is her assistant and close friend. Both live in the Gate House and call the Inn their home. Not only are the Inn-ers glad to see them back, but also many of the guests. During their absence they were greatly missed.

Friday Oct 12, 1945 — Cloudy

Every tree was at its peak in fall color today. The sky is a beautiful blue with a few white fluffy clouds scattered here and there. Our guests came on foot, horseback, busses and in private cars.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Week of October 7 - 13, 1945

Guests registered from London, England; Tampa, Florida; Hollywood, California; Paxton, Illinois; and Iceland as well as the New England states.

Saturday Oct 13, 1945 Pleasant

Many of our Wayside Inn boys are receiving their discharge papers as are many other boys. They all seem to rush back here to see their old acquaintances and the grounds that are so familiar.

Chester Soleski, class of '37, came for two days, accompanied by his charming wife. A fellow graduate, Philip Noyes stepped into the Inn and a quick glance at the floors recalled the great care he took several years ago helping to replace the ancient and worn boards.

"Jerry" Wood was discharged two weeks ago and has now started his college education at the University of New Hampshire.

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 14 - October 20, 1945

Sunday, October 14, 1945 — Fair

We had as a guest today Mrs. Louise Hawkes of Saugus. Mrs. Hawkes was among the ardent townspeople who prevented the Old Iron Works House from being sent from its natural surroundings to Greenfield Village. She made speeches and went to Governor Saltonstall with a petition that finally enables Saugus to retain this historic landmark. The Iron Works House was the home of Joseph Jenkins who invented the long sythe and made the die for our first coin, the pine tree shilling. Mrs. Hawkes tells us that the town of Saugus is now trying to restore the furnishings of the lovely old home and when this is completed the Iron Works House will be open to the public.

Monday, October 15, 1945 — Pleasant

This afternoon the wide old floor boards of the Inn took on a very gala aspect as they became strewn with confetti from the arriving honeymoon couples. The scent of gardenias mingled with the woody smell of the barroom as we greeted Mr. and Mrs. David Potter of Lexington, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall of Cambridge, and Mr. and Mrs. Harris of Hollywood, California.

Hostess: "Did you rest comfortably?"
Guest: "Only that we were wakened by the great great grandchildren of Mary's Little Lamb".

Tuesday, October 16, 1945 — Rain

We had an interesting talk with Mr. Harris today. He is a machinist mate 1st class and was with the amphibious forces at Okinawa, Iwo Jima and many other South Pacific battles. Mr. Harris had three ships sunk under him and was among five gunners that were severly wounded by an exploding Japanese plane. When we made reference to his Hollywood address, he told us that before the war he had been a stunt man in the movies and he felt that was pretty good preparation for some phases of Navy life.

Wednesday, October 17, 1945 — Clear

Mr. John K. Simons, a frequent guest at the Inn, presented us with a very interesting and informative book entitled "Ole Bull, A Memoir". It is a biography of the musician written by his wife, Sara C. Bull who was sister to Longfellow's son-in-law. This book will be an excellent addition to the Inn library. On the fly leaf is inscribed "Presented to Longfellow's Wayside Inn, October 7, 1945, in appreciation of all that has been given to posterity by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford".

Thursday, October 18, 1945 Pleasant

A fat robin has built a nest in the bayberry tree outside one of the windows of the original dining room.

Mr. Marshall, one of our honeymoon houseguests, who came to America five years ago from Egypt, was eloquent in his praise of the Inn and the entire estate. He pointed out that Americans often toured Europe trying to find an atmosphere, culture or way of life that they could find in our own country in a place such as the Inn that combines a fine historic background with an atmosphere of peaceful cheer.

Friday, October 19, 1945 Pleasant

Today we overheard a guest telling her companions that her last book had run into nineteen editions. Impressed and curious we finally discovered the author to be Ruth Webb Lee who used to have a lovely antique shop in Framingham. While admiring our pewter, Mrs. Lee told us that her "Early American Pressed Glass" was her latest and most successful book. "Victorian Glass" will be published in December.

Saturday, October 20, 1945 Fair

This morning we went for a walk in the woods and picked bright leaves for the tables. Many people were exploring the Mill and peeking into the windows of the Mary Lamb School.

A woman from Sudbury, looking wistfully about the Inn remarked, "I wish I didn't live so near. I'd love to come and spend the night." Another guest on her way to Florida said it was rather ridiculous for her to start a long trip by coming to the Inn as she never in her travels would find a place she would like as well.

HENRY FORD

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 21 - October 27, 1945

October 21, 1945 Fair

There are now hundreds of wild ducks and mallards about the estate. Mr. Pettigrew has been putting bands on the legs of these birds so that their migration may be traced. Recently, an Indian working in the Canal Zone found one of our birds and brought it to his overseer who in turn notified Mr. Pettigrew of the flying Waysider.

"At Wayside Inn the poppies grow"---Our friend Mr. John Simor has made us another gift. This time poppy seeds, the original seeds of which were grown at famed Flanders Field. We are planting them now in our garden and expect them to blossom in May.

October 22, 1945 Pleasant

Today we had a visit from Albert Verrsecchio who graduated from the Boys' School in 1939. Albert or "Iggy" as he is known to the Waysiders, is a Marine Sergeant and served at Guadalcanal and Bougainville.

We talked with a lady that hadn't been to the Inn since she spent a night here in 1905. She said that then "there was funny furniture and no running water" and she was amazed at the convenience and charm that the Inn now affords.

At seven o'clock the chapel was the scene of a candlelight ceremony when Miss Nancy Weeks of Marlboro married Mr. Alfred Jodie of Bridgeport, Pennsylvania. After the ceremony a reception was held on the porch for about 50 relatives and friends. Mr. and Mrs. Jodie will soon return to Washington where they are both employed at the National Airport.

October 23, 1945 Clear

A walk around the grounds of the Inn on a brisk fall morning is a very happy experience. Rustic stone walls and wide sweeping fields contrasted with the bright red and yellow of the autumn leaves give one a true feeling of peace and contentment. The long winding Boston Post Road is not crowded with speeding cars. Most of the drivers this morning seemed more interested in admiring the brilliant coloring of the trees and in seeing the historic landmarks than in getting to their destination.

This evening we were very pleased to welcome Lt. and Mrs. Walter H. Ford the 2nd, who have come to the Inn for a few days.

HENRY FORD

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 21 - October 27, 1945

October 24, 1945 Cloudy

We have as house guests Mr. and Mrs. Howard K. Beale of Washington, D. C. Mr. Beale taught 3 great-grandsons of Hawthorne's at Bowdoin from 1925-1930. One of these, Manning Hawthorne, expects to publish a book in collaboration with Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Dana of Hawthorne - Longfellow letters. Mr. Beale has written several books dealing with educational freedom and democracy and has recently published a biography of Theodore Roosevelt.

October 25, 1945 Rain

A fine, seemingly endless drizzle did not seem to keep people from the Inn today. A Mrs. Lyman of Milford, N. H. dropped by the bar after lunch to tell us some interesting facts about her mother, Sarah Elizabeth Dudley. Mrs. Dudley lived to be 102 and on her 100th birthday she received a congratulatory telegram from Mr. Ford. The President and the Governor of New Hampshire also sent messages and she received a bouquet made of 116 silver dollars.

A large group of students from the Teachers College at Danbury, Connecticut, came to see the house this afternoon and were highly enthusiastic and interested in the Story.

October 26, 1945 Rain

Today Garden and Jerusha welcomed Mr. and Mrs. I. Reed Gourley and Mr. and Mrs. Randall Flagg of Concord, New Hampshire. Mr. and Mrs. Gourley are celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary and Mr. and Mrs. Flagg their 35th. We were interested to learn that the Gourleys originally came to the Inn on their honeymoon 20 years ago today.

Plaid skirts and saddle shoes predominated this afternoon when a group of girls from the Walnut Hill School came for tea and a tour of the house. They were caught in the rain at the Mill and we heard one remark "I feel as if I had been in swimming with my clothes on". We overheard another after going through the Inn say defensively "Well, I had heard of Ole Bull, but I always thought he was an Indian!"

October 27, 1945 Fair

The fleet is in Boston Harbor to celebrate Navy Day and many people en route to the festivities dropped in for luncheon, among them several Navy personnel.

October 27, 1945 Continued

A group of small, wiggley and enthusiastic girls from the Tenacre School in Wellesley were much impressed by the Inn this afternoon.

One of our luncheon guests proved particularly interested in our Coolidge Sap Bucket in the Barroom. This was Major Thomas Coolidge of Washington D. C. who stopped in en route to the Fay School where he is bringing his small son. The Major was a cousin to Calvin Coolidge and told us that their mutual ancestor John C. Coolidge settled in Watertown in 1634. This was Major Coolidge's first visit to the Inn.

HENRY FORD

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 28 - November 3, 1945

Sunday, October 28, 1945 Warm

A very warm and busy day. Guests strolled about the grounds of the Inn enjoying the beauties of late Indian summer.

A very interested guest was Mrs. Edna Colman of Grafton, whose book "Colonial Life in America" is used as a text for school children all over the country. Mrs. Colman is planning to bring her small grandchildren to the Inn as she said she believed a tour of the estate "the nicest way possible to learn some history".

Monday, October 29, 1945 Pleasant

Mrs. Rex Lee Paris of Long Island, New York was a luncheon guest today. Her grandmother was Caroline Fuller who was an intimate friend of Mary Longfellow, sister of the poet about whom he wrote "There was a little girl who had a little curl" etc. Mary Longfellow gave Caroline Fuller a huge mother of pearl buckle which she wore on her wedding dress. Mrs. Paris told us that her daughter, the great-grand daughter of Caroline Fuller wore the buckle recently on her wedding day. She also said that Caroline Fuller was the first woman student to be enrolled at Aboott Academy in Andover.

Tuesday, October 30, 1945 Clear

Two large school groups today invaded the Inn with much exuberance and enthusiasm. The Fourth Grade of the Cabot School in Newton were just being explained the wonders of the "nindy nody" when surprised squeals and the thundering sound of many feet announced the arrival of Worcester Classical High. The Fourth Graders were so impressed by the splendor of the large ballroom that for a few awe-filled moments they refrained from asking questions and just silently stared. After hearing the story many of the Worcester Classical High students had tea, while the younger set preferring food for thought nearly exhausted our postcard supply.

Wednesday, October 31, 1945 Cloudy

A group of 18 ladies from the Woodville Baptist Church Woman's Association came for luncheon. One of the party told us she had last been here when she was 16 years old. "I'm 60 now", she added, "and it certainly is fine to come back".

This afternoon we looked out the barroom window to see about 40 fine horses trotting by, mounted by resplendant men and women in green and black jackets. It was the Fall Meet of the Milford and Norfolk Hunt Clubs and it was very thrilling to see the horses jumping over stone walls and galloping about the field by the Mill.

HENRY FORD

WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 28 - November 3, 1945

Thursday, November 1, 1945 Fair

Ten history students from Hudson High School were very interested in the Story today.

We are glad to welcome back to the estate Major and Mrs. Calvin Smith who return to the Nobscot Cottage after a stay of several years at Wright Field where Major Smith was stationed during the war. The Smiths are staying at the Inn while their home, the former Nobscot Tea House, is being reopened.

Friday, November 2, 1945 Cloudy

Chaplain and Mrs. Richard Curry of Washington have been house guests for the past few days. So enthused are they about the Inn that Chaplain Curry told us tonight that in 13 years he would have his daughter's coming out party here and in 10 years he should like to reserve all the guest and dining rooms for his friend in a large celebration of his and Mrs. Curry's 25th anniversary.

Mr. John Cross from Boston, a frequent visitor here pre-gas rationing, rejoiced that he could come out today when there are still some vestiges of Fall foliage. Mr. Cross, remarking on the bed-warmer hanging by the fire in the Barroom, told us that he had bought an old bed-warmer in Boston, England in 1937 and had to carry it all the way home to America as it was too long to pack.

Saturday, November 3, 1945 Fair

This morning a group of people were gathered at the Gate-house looking at the Lafayette carriage and maybe visualizing the splendor of another century when sleek, galloping horses brought the resplendant General down the old Post Road.

This evening we had as dinner guests a group of Swedish Journalists and business men who drove here directly from Common-wealth Pier after landing at Boston this afternoon from their own country. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Gullers, Swedish Journalists, who had recently visited Dearborn, and who interpreted the menu for the group. They were driven here by Mr. Thompson of the Ford Motor Company who met them at the dock with Mr. and Mrs. Gullers and drove them to the Inn.

HENRY FORD

WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

November 4 - 10, 1943

SUNDAY - Nov 4 CLEAR

The first snow storm! Our guests arrived this morn sprinkled with fine white flakes and within an hour every Inn window framed a lovely country snow scene. All the fire places were blazing and many guests seemed reluctant to leave the warmth of the Barroom for the cold outside. The four inch snowfall did not prevent guests from 14 different states from coming to the Inn today.

MONDAY - Nov 5 CLEAR

We had as luncheon guests Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Scriver and their young daughter Sally, from Glen Falls, New York. Mr. Scriver is Vice President of the First National Bank of Glen Falls, a ski enthusiast and an inventor. His latest invention is a training device that may be used in the home to practice skiing technique. This mechanism will cut down the hazards for inexperienced skiers who have formerly had to practice volley on the slopes. Mr. Scriver is a quiet reserved man and in Glen Falls he is nicknamed "Cal" after Calvin Coolidge because his friends believe his personality is similar to that of the great former President. The name of Mr. Scriver's ski Invention is the Cal Skii Trainer and Exerciser.

TUESDAY - Nov 6 CLEAR

Lieutenant Edith Hoag of Bellevue, Michigan visited the Inn today. As a child she attended the Willow Run School, which was the first brick school house in Michigan and is now at Greenfield Village. After her discharge from the Navy, Lt. Hoag plans marriage with a honeymoon at the Wayside.

WEDNESDAY - Nov 7 FAIR

This evening forty-nine of the faculty members of Framingham State Teachers College had dinner in the large dining room. The guests had a U shaped table in front of the fire place and our waitress Alice Rand, who is a Junior at the Teachers College. The group was greatly pleased with their dinner and sent us a very enthusiastic letter of appreciation.

THURSDAY - Nov 8 RAIN

The guests are very interested in the register book and enjoy looking it over to see where other guests came from. Often we hear a surprised exclamation when one comes across the name of a friend in the register. Today a little girl of about two years was almost speechless to find Greer Garson's signature. "And to think she stood right here where I am" gasped the young movie fan. One guest said her husband used to register "Mr. Brandenberg and wife" until she suggested subtly that it made her sound rather subordinate. Ever since he has been signing "Edith Brandenberg and husband."

HENRY FORD

WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

November 4 - 10, 1945

(Con't.)

FRIDAY - Nov 9 CLEAR

A very attractive honeymoon couple arrived tonight after their colorful wedding ceremony at Emmanuel Church, Boston. They were Lieutenant and Mrs. Thomas Leaming Smith, Jr. who stopped here as overnight guests en route to San Francisco where Lt. Smith will be stationed. Mrs. Smith is the former Elizabeth Windsor of Boston and has been one of the ~~cities~~ Pitts most popular post debutantes.

SATURDAY- Nov 10 PLEASANT

Many people en route to college football games dropped in for lunch. This evening we had as dinner guests three members of the Holy Cross team who had participated in todays game against Boston College. These three players were the guests of Mr. T. H. Grady, a New York Publisher who has been our house guest for several days/

HENRY FORD

WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

November 11 - November 17, 1945

SUNDAY - 11/11 COLD AND CLOUDY

We were particularly glad to be at the Inn today, where blazing fireplaces and enthusiastic guests contrast strongly with the bleak beginnings of winter outside. Jim Barron who graduated from the Boys School in 1943 came to the Inn today with a friend from the service. Jim is a Chief Petty Officer in the Naval Reserve Maritime Service and returns from seven months of overseas duty. His first visit was to the kitchen where he used to work when he was at the school. The crescent insignia on his sleeve tells us that he is a Navy Cook now. A group of 35 members of the Outing Club of the Boston Y. W. C. A. celebrated their 10th. anniversary here tonight.

MONDAY - 11/12 RAIN

Lt. Nancy Midwood of the Waacs stopped at the bar after luncheon to ask us the whereabouts of the old bicycles that used to be on display at the Gatehouse. Lt. Midwood told us that when she was a small child living in Concord she sold to Mr. Ford a bicycle that had belonged to her grandmother. She was pleased to learn that the bicycles are now on display at Greenfield Village.

TUESDAY - 11/13 CLOUDY

Professor Shell and fifteen of the "Wayciders" from M.I.T. had as their guest tonight, Mr. Henry S. Dennison of the Dennison Manufacturing Company. Their speaker, another guest, was in the Sabotage Division of the Army Intelligence Service and gave a fascinating account of the work of that branch. We were again very pleased to welcome to the Inn Mr. & Mrs. Walter B. Ford.

WEDNESDAY - 11/14 FAIR

Today we added another celebrity to our list of guests - Eddie Peabody, nationally known banjo player and originator of the National Barn Dance radio program. Mr. Peabody, who came for tea with his wife and little boy, is a Commander in the Navy on inactive duty and is at present playing an engagement at the Hotel Statler in Boston. He gave us a fascinating account of his career from 1922, when he formed his first small band on the West Coast, up to the present day when he has played in over 6000 performances, has 90 bands for USO tours overseas and large musical revues in Chicago, Detroit and Boston. Mr. Peabody prior to the war, toured Europe making records and made his first motion picture with the inventors of Vitaphone.

HENRY FORD

WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

November 11 - November 17, 1945
continued

THURSDAY - 11/15 PLEASANT

Sixty members of the Waltham Musical Club had a banquet here in celebration of a successful concert of Chopin music which they presented last night in Waltham. The tables in the large dining room were gaily decorated with blue and white placecards with a musical note motif and large bunches of chrysanthamums. After dinner they showed the movie "Moonlight Sonata" in which Paderewski plays the music of Chopin. The group were very enthusiastic about the Inn and said that they wished that they could always listen to music in such a charming, peaceful atmosphere.

FRIDAY - 11/16 RAIN

John Webber from Boston was much interested tonight in the whale oil lamps on the parlor mantel. The lamps were made by Israel Trask who was the great grandfather of Mr. Webber. Mr. Ford loaned these lamps to Mr. Webber in 1925 to be displayed in the Trask collection of a pewter exhibit which Mr. Webber was showing at that time.

SATURDAY - 11/17 CLEAR

We have been beseiged with earnest supplications for Thanksgiving reservation, but this one especially we particularly liked for its wistful appeal...."Can you possibly accomodate two hungry country bumpkins who must eat on Thanksgiving day? My young friend has just returned from the South Pacific and unexpectedly reminds me that he has my written promise to take him again to the Wayside for one of your famous meals. If you find it impossible to accept two hungry, humble applicants, I shall have to find something to be thankful for in a holiday menu of: Choice of: Bacon and Eggs (or) Chicken a la King (canned) (or) Kibbled Dog Food. My housekeeper has been seriously ill and absent for many weeks. We could bring our own firewood - choice of apple, hickory, pine, birch, pumpkin or mince." We somehow managed to find room, no turkey shall be served these two pathetic men from South Dartmouth.

HENRY FORD

WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

November ~~15~~ 18 to December ~~7~~ Nov. 24, 1945

SUNDAY 11/18 FAIR

An interested guest today was Mr. [illegible], a Detroit contractor. Mr. [illegible] who had been reconverting war plants said that he was out of work due to the Detroit strikes. He is taking a tour of New England while he waits for the strike situation to improve.

SUNDAY 11/19 COLD

We had a pleasant visit with Mr. and Mrs. Phillip [illegible] Olsen and their son and daughter. The Olsen family are on a historical sight-seeing tour in an automobile trailer. They will go to Washington, D. C., Williamsburg and Florida before returning to the West Coast. The daughter, a High School student, was taking notes on the Longfellow Association and was very interested in the story of the Mary Lamb School.

TUESDAY 11/20 CLOUDY

A recent guest was Miss Jane Stearns from Egypt, Mass. She was very interested in being shown the picture of Lyman Rowe as her great grandmother was Rebecca Rowe, the Landlords cousin. Miss Stearns said that she had never been to the Inn before but easily recognized it from some old oil paintings that belonged to her great grandmother.

WEDNESDAY 11/21 CLOUDY

Today's mail brought a cheery note from Phil Harrison of Touch Tours which livened up a dull, cloudy day. The note reads:

> "Remember the Royal Air Force boys from Brazil, Ceylon, Madeira and England I brought up there on Labor Day? Just had a letter from the Brazil boy written from England and he says they all want to be remembered to the folks at Wayside Inn".

HENRY FORD

KATHIE IAN

D I A R Y

November ~~25~~ 18 to ~~December 1~~ NOV 24, 1945

- continued -

THURSDAY 11/22

A lovely big snow storm that made the buildings and woods on the estate take on the idyllic beauty of a Christmas card snow scene. Two house guests from New York spent the early hours shoveling their car out of the parking space and an express truck from Marlboro spent the night in a drift by the barn. We plowed to work in rubber boots and thought what fun it would be to go skiing.

FRIDAY 11/23

The large ballroom was again the scene of festivities when Mrs. Charles Reed of Marlboro gave a tea to announce the engagement of her daughter Anne to a Lieutenant in the Army Air Corps. After tea was served an entertainer gave imitations and read some short, humorous sketches that were very enthusiastically received.

SATURDAY 11/24

Last evening at a candle light service in the Chapel, Miss Nancy Brown of Wayland became the bride of Lt. Thomas Shepard of Boston. A reception was held in the large ballroom where a buffet supper was served. Lt. Shepard had recently returned from overseas where after a year of combat duty, he was confined in a Japanese prison camp.

HENRY FORD

WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

November 25 to December 1, 1945

SUNDAY 11/25 CLOUDY

The National Company's production of the long exciting Oklahoma has been scoring a swashing success during its eight-week run in Boston, so you can imagine our surprise and glee when two of the stars appeared with their escorts for dinner tonight. Mercedes Coltz, who plays "Laurie", the dramatic lead and Margaret Nelson, the star of the ballet sequences, were just as interested in the history of the Inn as we were listening to an account of their exciting road tour with the big Broadway success. They left, each wearing one of the Bowker's yellow roses and assured us the more of the cast would be out after they heard their enraptured description of the Inn.

MONDAY 11/26 FAIR

Mr. Gen Lovett, the former Greenfield Village dancing master came over from Braintree with his wife yesterday for Sunday Dinner. One of the boys from the school, an ardent enthusiast of our dancing class, pointing out Mr. Lovett to a small friend, said in used tones, "There's the Michigan Mr. Haynes".

TUESDAY 11/27 CLEAR

Mr. William King, a Quaker from New Bedford told us an interesting bit of family history relative to the Inn. In 1840 his grandmother and grandfather, Amy and Parson King, stopped here for their honeymoon. They came on horseback and were on their way "West"(as Eastern New York State was then considered.)

WEDNESDAY 11/28 RAIN

We recently received for our library a lovely book entitled "Bahamian Lore". Chaplain Robert S. Curry of Washington, a recent house guest, is the author and sent us the book in appreciation of the Inn. The beautifully illustrated book, which deals with the history and folk lore of the Bahamian Islands, was written and privately published by Chaplain Curry in Paris.

HENRY DOBB

WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

November [illegible] to December [illegible], 1945

- continued -

THURSDAY 11/29 [illegible]

Today we were really impressed to walk down the Parlor and hear a guest quoting the Thanksgiving's Tale. It was the Rev. George Butler who is minister at the Methodist Church in Baltimore. Mr. Butler told us that he had always wanted to be a minister and as a young child had memorized the entire Thanksgiving's Tale as he thought it quite befitting a potential member of the clergy to quote from Longfellow's "Tales of a Wayside Inn."

FRIDAY 11/30 [illegible]

Among letters received today was an inquiry about some Devon Oxen that were sold to Mr. Ford shortly after the purchase of the Inn. Mr. C. F. Marlowe of Pembroke Center, author of "Coaching Roads of Old New England", received a letter from his friend Mr. Dunbar, a Vermont farmer who raised the oxen, asking Mr. Marlowe if he could procure a picture of them.

Tale has come to a search of the photographic [illegible] a picture will be found and forwarded to Vermont.

SATURDAY 12/1 [illegible]

We seem to be getting a more and more [illegible] group at the Inn. Today we had as guests, Mrs. Frank Lane, a returned [illegible] to Japan, a [illegible] from Porto Rico and a native [illegible] in early American Furniture.

Most fun of all was a bright-eyed, [illegible] girl, who was entering the door, jumped up and down with delight and said "Oh, goody! [illegible]!"

THE WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

Week of December 2 - 8, 1945, incl.

SUNDAY 12/2 COLD

Mr. and Mrs. Winfred Rhoades of Chestnut Hill will be our houseguests this week. They originally came to the Inn for their honeymoon last April. Mr. Rhoades is a well known Boston psycotherapist and has published many fine books in field. A copy of his latest and most successful book "The Art of Living" was presented to the Inn Library on a former visit.

MONDAY 12/3 PLEASANT

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sprout of Sharon returned to the Inn today to celebrate Mr. Sprout's discharge from the service. They too spent their honeymoon at the Inn. Mr. Sprout laughingly noted that the tiny apothocary scales tipped in favor of the house.

TUESDAY 12/4 CLEAR

Miss Ellen Riggs of Boston, a frequent visitor borrowed a copy of "The Tales of a Wayside Inn" to read this snowy afternoon. She noticed that Longfellow used the term "The March of Time" in the "Tales" and believes that the present title for the Time Magazine moving picture feature is adopted directly from the poet.

WEDNESDAY 12/5 CLOUDY

Mr. Prescott from the school dropped in to entertain us with a tale of his experiences hiking up Mount Washington. Mr. Prescott was vitally enthused with the spirit of the mountain climbers that he encountered on his trip. He said that these sport enthusiasts are people "free from Sordidness" and that the outdoor life "swept the cobwebs" from their minds.

THE WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

Week of December 2 - 8, 1945, incl.

Continued

THURSDAY 12/6 GLARE ICE

Lt. and Mrs. Robert Sanford from Wayland are spending their honeymoon here at the Inn. Lt. Sanford received his discharge this morning and promptly started out with his wife for a day of skiing in celebration. As he left the Inn he slipped and fell, a confused panarama of plaid shirt and ski boots. Struggling to his feet, Lt. Sanborn staunchly remarked, "First morning I am a civilian I have to fall down! I never could fall down in uniform, it looks too undignified."

FRIDAY 12/7 FREEZING

We overheard two remarks this wintry day that pleased us very much. A Portugese business man after going through the Inn said, "What a wonderful place this is to make one feel peaceful."

Another enthusiastic guest hoped that Governor Tobin of Massachusetts didn't forget to tell them about this place when abroad making Boston's bid to be the site of the United Nations Organization.

SATURDAY 12/8 STILL FREEZING

After checking in tonight, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Scott of Binghamton, New York, walked through the house enthusiastically admiring the old rooms. "I first heard of the Inn at Panama", Mr. Scott told us. It seems he had been a bunkmate of Mr. Estabrook's son for his two years in the Army, and had heard such glowing accounts of this place that he chose to spend his honeymoon here with his attractive new bride.

THE WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

December 9 - 15, 1945

SUNDAY 12/9 PARTLY CLOUDY

Miss Riggs, our nature-loving house-guest, dressed herself for a winter walk this morning and started towards the woods where she encountered several feathered friends. Among them were the tree sparrows whose fine feathers, seen through field glasses, appeared a bit ruffled in the winter wind. Miss Riggs returned from her walk bringing an armful of evergreens which Miss Fisher used in small pewter bowls on the dining room tables.

MONDAY 12/10 STORMY

The Inn was a lively place this evening when fifty-seven members of the faculty and students of the Atlantic Union College motored here from Lancaster, Mass., to celebrate the Christmas season. Dinner was served in the large dining room after which an appropriate entertainment was provided including moving pictures and the reading of Dicken's "Christmas Carol".

TUESDAY 12/11 COLD

A severe cold wave is sweeping over New England making the corner near the fireplace in the old Bar Room a particularly attractive spot. Finding it so, are the house guests Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sanborn, a newly-wed couple who have been here several days. The young man is suffering from Battle fatigue and chooses the seat nearest the fire. His lovely new wife entertains him (and us) with talks about photography. She is a professional in the photographic field and has recorded several important Hollywood events such as Betty Grable's wedding.

WEDNESDAY 12/12 VERY COLD

The Inn staff came shivering into the house at an early hour this morning to prepare for a Wedding Breakfast to be served at 10:30 o'clock. Agnes set the table for eight in the old dining room while a hostess placed greens around the

THE WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

December 9 - 15, 1945

- continued -

towering wedding cake. When all was in readiness, including the bountiful repast, the wedding party arrived. The Bride was in a proverbial white satin gown with veil, while the groom and ushers were dressed in cut-a-way coats with striped trousers. A small reception was held in the old ball-room before the guests went into the dining room.

THURSDAY 12/13 VERY COLD

The Inn household was treated to an informal concert this evening provided by a group of women guests who gathered around the old spinet in the Parlor. They sang several songs ap ropos of the instrument and its setting, much to the enjoyment of all who listened.

FRIDAY 12/14 COLD

Mr. Lewis, an employee of the Ford Motor Company for the past 22 years, was honored by fellow Masons and members of the Eastern Star at a farewell dinner and dance this evening. Mr. Lewis is leaving the company at the Somerville Plant to go into his own business. Over a hundred people sat down to a trukey dinner which was followed by dancing in the large ball-room. Mr. Haynes directed the dancers in lively old fashioned steps while a five piece orchestra accompanied them. Later a lighted Christmas tree claimed its share of attention as Christmas gifts were distributed to each and all.

SATURDAY 12/15 VERY COLD

Registered for lunch today were Mr. and Mrs. A.D. Weir of Skowriotissa, Nicosia, Cyprus.

More familiar to our sight were Mr. and Mrs. McMillan sojourning for the winter months at the Ritz Carlton in Boston and our dear friends Mr. and Mrs. Booker from Worcester.

THE WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

December 16 to December 22, 1945

SUNDAY 12\16 VERY COLD

Tonight Reverend Condit, with a courageous group of boys and girls, braved the cold to come over from Needham and have dinner here. The club is known as "Comrades of the Way" and the right to come to this final meeting had to be earned by good attendance at their weekly meetings. A communion candlelight service was held at the Chapel where one of the teachers said, "You could have heard a pin drop." They literally blew into the Inn and clustered around the fireplaces waiting for dinner. After which carols were sung around the fire in the dining room. A very attractive program was made bearing the Red Horse sign. Mr. Stone, the son of Mrs. Stone one of our housekeepers, led the singing. In fact, Mr. Condit said, "Mr. Stone is my right-hand man and helps me in so many ways". Then he added that this occasion had been so successful he thought it should be made an annual event.

MONDAY 12\17 VERY COLD

Everyone is talking about the weather. Three tall young men in "civies" dropped in for dinner this evening and added a few more remarks to our already large collection. As they stood in front of the Bar-room fire, one of them said, "Gee, in the Air Force you used to get a Purple Heart for frozen fingers. Now you don't get a thing!"

TUESDAY 12\18 VERY COLD

The Christmas spirit reigns. Miss Fisher is at work with greens and glittery stars, combining the two for center table decorations. Upstairs a large Christmas tree is being hauled into the ball room ready for tinsel and colored lights. A telephone call from the North Pole reminded us this afternoon that Santa Claus needs his Christmas suit right away! These are the outward aspects of Christmas, but within the heart of everyone here, the Christmas spirit has found its way. Little messages of good cheer are going out to Wayside Inn friends at a distance. There are the Crocketts, the

THE WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

December 16 to December 22, 1945

- continued -

McMillans, the Halls, the Howes and innumerable others who share the charm of this old Inn throughout the year. They must share it's Christmas spirit too.

Professor Schell came this evening with twelve Waysiders for a monthly dinner meeting. Dr. Liljeblad, Harvard lecturer and authority on the American Indian, was the guest speaker.

WEDNESDAY 12/19 SNOW STORM

Encompassed by an all day snow storm and as if preparing for a long Winter's nap, the Inn snuggled down this afternoon under a soft white blanket. Within it's folds were darkened rooms, the only bright spot being the flickering light on the Bar-room hearth. Around this sat a group of friends, journeying in imagination to foreign lands, to many places where snow has never been seen. Tony Angelico was the guide, recounting his travelling experiences of the past five years. These included flapping pancakes for Army buddies over in Africa just as he was wont to do over the kitchen range at the Wayside Inn. Tony is one of "our" boys who graduated from the Wayside Inn School and proudly told of it recently when stationed in Manila. As a matter of fact, Tony carried a copy of the "Tales of a Wayside Inn" half way around the World. Here at last, safe and warm, Tony bashfully confessed that the cherished book now belongs to a little Philippino. "It was this way", he said, "I loaned it to fellow who gave it to his girl!"

THURSDAY 12/20 COLD

Down the chimney came good old Saint Nick tonight and landed about eight o'clock in the large ball room. Here he found two hundred men, women and children awaiting his arrival, mostly children because that is the purpose of this annual Christmas party, to provide fun and merriment for all the children of Wayside Inn employees. Little tots and older

THE WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

December 16 to December 22, 1945

- continued -

children find the same excitement in Santa's visit. They eagerly await his call in order to receive a handshake, a word of greeting, a little present and a stocking filled with goodies. Surely Santa must look forward to this stopping place. Year after year he finds the same hearty welcome - and a dish of ice cream!

FRIDAY 12\21 COLD

Mr. William F. Young, a former Headmaster of the Boys' School, came to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. He is now Headmaster at the Rumkle School in Brookline, Mass. After dancing class, he talked with his friends about old times at the Inn. Ralph Del Greco, who was one of Mr. Young's pupils about ten years ago, joined the party and told about plans for his future, namely to study Physical Education at the University of Southern California. On a recent visit to the State House, Ralph was delighted to learn that his name was not Delagrieco, as he had been informed, but Del Greco.

SATURDAY 12\22 SLIGHTLY WARMER

"To be clever is the gift and accomplishment of a lucky few, but to be kind may be achieved by everyone."

"Anyone who is struggling through the Slough of Despond these days should remember others, and keep his dolors to himself. For there is one hypocrisy which the world not only approves, but applauds. That is, to hide a breaking heart behind a cheerful countenance."

"So wait for more light, when in doubt. And while waiting, work such faith as you possess into a wholesome philosophy of life. And let such doubts that remain (and there will always be a residue) be turned toward faith rather than futility."

Excerpts from "Thoughts for Today" presented to The Wayside Inn family by the author, Frater William Wallace Rose - Christmas 1945.

THE WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

December 23 - 29, 1945

SUNDAY 12\23 PLEASANT

Six nice little girls belonging to a Sunday School class were entertained today by their teacher, Mrs. Savage, who brought them here for dinner after this morning's church service. The girls were eager and enthusiastic and after a guided tour through the house rushed to the hostess for an autograph. Then they went merrily down to the school, chapel and mill. About four o'clock, they appeared again at the front door to wave a cheery good-bye.

MONDAY 12\24 VERY COLD

This afternoon, Agnes pulled out a carefully packed-away red table cloth and set the table in the old kitchen for a party of eight. This was the first time in at least three years that a dinner has been served at the long trestle table. A blazing fire added warmth and atmosphere to the already atmospheric filled kitchen and when dinner was announced, the eight hungry Plimptons seated themselves in straight ladder-backed chairs and waited eagerly for hot soup. The Plimptons with three children live over the hill in Framingham Center and are keeping open house this Christmas for relatives from the West. This especially prepared kitchen dinner was arranged as a treat "for my in-laws" said Mr. Plimpton, "and it was certainly fit for a King!"

TUESDAY 12\25 PARTLY CLOUDY

CHRISTMAS DAY

Edwin Markham's magnificent poem came through the mail recently and is indeed fitting for Christmas Day. It's last two lines are a prayer:

"May Mercy speed the hour when War shall cease
And men cry back to God, "There shall be peace!"

THE WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

December 23 - 29, 1945

- continued -

A pink teddy bear, borne by a tiny child - a heart shaped box of candy slipped quietly to a hostess- a green wreath on the wide front door - a sprig of holly pinned to a woman's coat - a "horn of plenty" table decoration - a gob in blue - Grandfather Rice bringing in his hands a high chair - all these and more were the peace-loving aspects of Christmas at the Wayside Inn---- "men crying back to God,

"There shall be peace".

WEDNESDAY 12\26 WARMER

Guests have registered recently from Uraguay, Argentina, Norway, Nova Scotia and Portugal.

THURSDAY 12\27 CLEAR

It would seem as if the Inn was quite "fenced in" sometimes were it not for guests who bring new and interesting thoughts from afar. "Don't fence me in" could well have been the theme song this evening as several house guests drew up chairs in front of the fire and talked about people and places from one end of the World to the other. Colonel T. F. Horn is just back from Vienna and Mr. W. W. Hoffman is enroute from Brazil to Frankfurt, Germany - a long stretch in landlord Howe's time, but only a hop, skip and jump for the present day traveller. Other guests were the Langs and the Broomes who found no difficulty in staying outside the fence because they too have travelled extensively in Europe. Such questions as "Were any Brazilian women organized like our Waacs in the War?" were typical and the answers flew back and forth from Mr. Hoffman to the Colonel, to Mr. Lang and to Mrs. Hoffman. When the Hoffmans are again settled in an American consulate and when the Horns are back in Vienna and the Langs in New York, they may, by chance, hear the popular song and wish that for a little while they could be "fenced in" at the Wayside Inn.

THE WAYSIDE INN

D I A R Y

December 23 - 29, 1945

- continued -

FRIDAY 12|28 PLEASANT

Ann Joannet who used to be a hostess here, paid a visit to the Inn today and talked with many of her friends. She is now teaching school in Waltham, but with a happy smile on her face, announced that her wedding would probably take place in February, "as soon as Maurey returns from Europe".

SATURDAY 12|29 SNOW STORM

We wish the readers of the Diary could have seen the Christmas card that came today from Old Man Winter. It was a picture of a large old house in the country, half buried in snow drifts, the snow still falling and sparkling in the lamplight. There was a lamp on either side of the entrance to the path leading up to the front door and each carried a tall biscuit of snow on top. All the straight lines in the picture were softened and thickened and only the fringe of long icicles showed where the eaves must be. Outside of every window hung a green wreath tied with a red ribbon, each collecting its own snow cap and making a round frame for the lighted candle within. Near the hospitable door-way was a small sign which read:

WAYSIDE INN